

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND

China Oberland Trade Report.

VOL. LXVI.]

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BIRTHS.

On September 23rd, at Shanghai, the wife of W. AUG WHITTE, of a daughter.
On September 24th, at Shanghai, the wife of R. W. THOMAS, of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

On September 24th, at Shanghai, OWEN LEWIS ILBERT, and GERTRUDE MARGARET HORWAD MONTPENNY.

DEATH.

On September 26th, at Shanghai, HENRY EDWARDS, Electrical Engineer, Shanghai Dock and Engineering Co., Ltd., aged 28 years.

Hongkong Weekly Press.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 10A, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.

LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The English Mail of 6th September arrived, per the s.s. *Delhi*, on Thursday, the 3rd instant.

FAR EASTERN NEWS.

H. E. Shang Ch'ih-hang, Provincial Treasurer of Fukien, and one of the Five Travelling Commissioners in 1906, has memorialized the Throne strongly urging the necessity of allowing full liberty to the Press to criticize and discuss public affairs, so that those in power may know the feelings and opinions of the masses. This is one of the foundations of national strength, and it will be unwise to introduce methods of further muzzling the Press.

At a recent Grand Council meeting H. E. Yuan Shih-kai urged the Empress Dowager to re-employ ex Viceroy Ts'ên Ch'un-hsuan. [Shum] but her Majesty promptly declined to receive the suggestion.

It is stated that H. E. Lü Hai-huan is to be appointed Postmaster-General of the I. P. O., and that he is to join Sir Robert Hart in extending the new conditions throughout the Empire. In this connexion it has been decided to abolish the Imperial couriers of the provinces.

Zen Ah-pan refused to marry her betrothed at Hangchow, so her adopted father promptly sold her to a man of his own choice in Shanghai. On September 26th the girl told the Mixed Court magistrate that she was born at Hangchow, but her parents were dead. They had betrothed her to a man to whom she objected. Her adopted father brought her to Shanghai and sold her. The case was remanded until the adopted father could appear, the girl being meanwhile sent to the "Door of Hope."

A very interesting trade-mark case is proceeding at the Shanghai Mixed Court. The British-American Tobacco Co. Ltd. is proceeding against a Chinese cigarette manufactory for an injunction against using packets designed something like their own. There was a claim for damages and forfeiture, but that was withdrawn. The defence is that this is not a bona-fide action but an attempt to crush legitimate competition. When the case is further advanced, we hope to say something about it.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that the Crown has resumed and re-entered into and upon Ping Shan Inland Lot No. 1, Ping Shan in the New Territories, under and by virtue of the provisions contained in the Crown Lease of such Lot dated 17th August, 1903, as is shown on a plan signed by the Land Officer and deposited in the District Land Office of the Northern District at Tai Po, New Territories; and also for general information that a memorial of re-entry by Government of the said lot has been registered according to law.

It is a coincidence worth mentioning in our Jubilee issue that a conspicuous figure in Hongkong in 1857 was Colonel Lugard, R.E., an uncle of our present Governor, His Excellency Sir Frederick Lugard. Colonel Lugard was in command of the Engineers in the Expedition of 1857, but did not live to take part in the attack on Canton. He died in Hongkong on December 1st and was buried on the 3rd with all military honours "in the cemetery hard by the race-course." Mr. Wingrove Cooke, the *Times* correspondent, wrote: "It was an imposing spectacle, for all the officers of all the European nations now present in Hongkong followed in long procession the gun carriage on which he was borne to his grave. Many of those present not only knew him as an officer, whose loss at this critical moment is disastrous to the public service, but loved him as a man. I was one of those who mourned to think we shall hear no more his frank hearty laugh and receive no more his manly, soldier-like greeting. Poor Lugard was a victim to hard work in this treacherous climate. He had much to do and small materials to work with. He was a leader without soldiers. He had to form and fashion a corps of engineers and sappers and miners out of troops of the line. His labour was incessant, and he paid the penalty which these trying Hongkong heats almost always exact for over-exertion."

The Evening Continuation Classes are about to start shortly under the name Hongkong Technical College. The Technical College is now a Sub-Department of the Education Department. The Classes to be held are as follows.—(A) Engineering Section: Building Construction; Machine Drawing; * Steam; * Electricity and Magnetism; Applied Mechanics; Practical Mathematics; * Field Survey. (B) Commerce Section: English; French; German; Shorthand (including short course of typewriting); Bookkeeping (Elementary) (C) Science Section: Chemistry; * Physics * Those marked with an asterisk are new.

A Seoul message states that early on the morning of September 17th all the Ministers of State attended at the Palace, and strongly urged the Emperor to remove to his Majesty's new residence on that day as was arranged. At first the Emperor declined, but the Ministers succeeded at last in persuading him to consent to the removal by 3 p.m., at which time the Emperor and Empress left the Keium Palace. The ex-Emperor bitterly lamented parting with his son, and, having offered to accompany him to the new palace, proceeded thither together with Lady Um his favourite. At 4 p.m. General Hasegawa visited the new palace, and offered his congratulations to the Emperor. The ex-Emperor refused to go back to his palace, insisting that he must remain with his son. The ex-Emperor and Lady Um spent the night at the Emperor's new palace, and there were no signs of their departure on the 18th instant. Thus, concludes the message, the mooted separation of the Emperor and ex-Emperor has fallen through, despite all the efforts made by Ministers of State.

About two years ago a scheme was submitted to the Government on behalf of a foreign syndicate for boring a tunnel through Victoria Peak with a view to developing the other side of the island as a residential district. It was not a new idea and we may appropriately mention in the present issue that the suggestion occurs facetiously in a letter to the *Times* written from Hongkong fifty years ago. Curiously enough it is associated with the name of a relative of our present Governor. Here is the extract from a letter written by Mr. Wingrove Cooke:—"Colonel Lugard is meditating deep things about mysteries which I attempt not to fathom; for Colonel Lugard is the head of the Engineers. I wish he would think it necessary for some military purpose to drive a tunnel through this Victoria mountain and let in the south-west monsoon." Mr. Cooke however, thought a more practicable thing would be to take possession of the opposite peninsula of Kowloon. "It is quite incomprehensible that this has not been done. If any other powers should do so—and what is to prevent them?—the harbour of Hongkong is lost to us." History reveals that this was patent to the authorities and especially to the late Sir Harry Parkes (then in the Consular service) to whose foresight, diplomacy and indomitable energy we are largely indebted for its acquisition. As an esteemed correspondent pointed out in the *Daily Press* three or four years ago, it is remarkable in a Colony which has done so much in the way of street nomenclature to perpetuate the names of men who have been conspicuously identified with its history, that there is not a single memorial worth the name in Hongkong to the distinguished man to whom the Colony in its early days owed so much.

MAILS.

(Daily Press, September 30th.)

There was not really anything of the nature of an "agitation" at Hongkong against the Siberian mail route, as a correspondent seems to have told a British agency. The fact that two or three letters, despatched by that route, went astray, led to a suggestion that until it had had time to get thoroughly organized, the trans-Siberian route would not be found altogether dependable. Hongkong is not concerned in any way to praise or condemn particular mail routes, save as they may be found to serve their purpose. The much talk of an "All Red" or purely British route for our mails left us unexcited. We waited to see if the C.P.R. mail could beat existing popular lines, and it didn't. Now that the land route is actually delivering mail matter ahead of any of the ocean routes, it is becoming increasingly popular, and will continue to do so. The correspondent to whom expedition is a desideration, and that embraces the majority, does not care a straw under what flag his mail matter travels. So long as it goes quickly and safely to its destination, that is all he troubles about. There is no sentiment in business, and while the national prestige counts for a good deal with most of us, it is only after office hours really that it matters. We have seen how on passenger lines the red ensign has failed to compensate many people for cheaper fares or greater comforts and indulgences. With a sort of "ring," and level fares, we expect that each national will show preference for his own flag, but it would be sheer humbug to pretend that there is an appreciable number who in such a matter would consider patriotism before pocket. The empire does not suffer particularly when a subject chooses to travel by an alien line, but his pocket or convenience might if he consistently refused to patronize the foreigner. In the matter of mails it is the safest possible prophecy to make that that route will be most favoured which is most expeditious, other things being equal. The land route is bound to beat all the sea routes, and to beat them more handsomely in the future than it is doing now. The vexed question of subsidies will before long be simplified; it is inevitable. The "all red" agitation has come too late. At present it appears the all railway route costs the postal authorities more, but that is a detail which will surely be amended as the line develops and its patronage increases. The complaint that letters endorsed "via Siberia" are enclosed in mail bags for the ocean route is a serious one, and we trust the local postal authorities noted it in our columns. It is, of course, not correct to suggest that the superscription was purposely ignored; it has been due to carelessness among the sorters, perhaps due to overwork. There would be no occasion for the rush and hustle with which our mails are made up for despatch if the public were to be a little more considerate. Much is left to the last moment that could very well be sent in earlier, and the strain of "mail day" in many offices is possibly a result of previous slackness, though this is not to overlook the fact that some things have to wait till the last possible moment.

H. E. the Governor has been pleased, under instructions received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, to direct that the post of Assistant Superintendent of Police and Police Magistrate in the new Territories shall be amalgamated, and that Mr. E. B. Hallifax shall continue to perform the duties of such post under the title of District officer.

OUR JUBILEE.

(Daily Press, October 1st.)

Founded on October 1st 1857 as a daily newspaper—the first newspaper to make a daily appearance in the East—the Hongkong Daily Press to-day attains its Jubilee. Looking backward over the history of the past fifty years we may well claim that it forms an era in the history of the world, with which no similar period of time can compare in richness of achievement, commercial, political and scientific. Especially interesting and remarkable are the commercial and political developments in Asia during the past fifty years. When we take a bird's-eye view of the half-century's events in the Far East, we begin by witnessing the persistent efforts of China and Japan to close their doors against the commerce and the friendship of the Western "barbarians." Fourteen years before the Daily Press made its appearance China had seemingly been brought by British Military operations to revise her estimate of the Western nations, and a Treaty was signed at Nanking in 1843 granting to British subjects the right to reside for the purpose of carrying on their mercantile pursuits without molestation or restraint at the ports of Canton, Amoy, Foochow, Ningpo, and Shanghai, and also confirming the cession of Hongkong in perpetuity to Great Britain as a place whereat British subjects might "careen and refit their ships when required, and keep stores for that purpose." Driven by threats of annihilation from Canton and Macao, the British merchants had sought a refuge on the island of Hongkong, nearly four years before, and when retribution followed, an Imperial Commissioner ceded the Island to the British Crown the British flag being hoisted on the peak in January 1841. But as the reader knows, that agreement was repudiated by the Emperor of China, and in like manner the Treaty engagements solemnly entered into at Nanking were also studiously ignored, the provincial Chinese authorities, secretly directed no doubt by the Court, manifesting a determination to make the Treaty ineffective.

That was the position of affairs in 1857. Two further military expeditions were necessary before the Chinese Government was brought to understand the binding nature of its agreement with the Powers. When the Daily Press made its first appearance Hongkong was showing its value as a naval and military base. Preparations were in progress for the military operations which resulted in the Tientsin Treaty of 1858 whereby the Treaty of Nanking was "renewed and confirmed," and many further concessions, granted, including the right to appoint a British Minister to the Court at Peking, the opening of the Yangtze river to foreign trade and the addition of Newchwang, Chefoo, Formosa, Swatow and Hainan to the list of places open to international commerce. But no sooner had the expedition quitted Tientsin than it became plainly apparent that the Chinese Government never intended to carry out the terms of the Treaty if they could avoid it. When Lord ELGIN was proceeding to Peking to exchange ratifications his ships were fired upon by the garrison at Taku. In consequence the Taku forts were taken, and an Anglo-French expedition went to Peking. The Emperor fled from the capital and as a retributive act of justice the Summer Palace was burnt to the ground by the allies. A convention of peace was signed by Lord ELGIN at Peking embodying an expression of the Emperor of China's deep regret at the "misunder-

standing" which occurred at Taku. The Chinese Government consented to pay to the British an indemnity of eight million taels, two for the indemnification of the British mercantile community at Canton, for losses sustained by them, and the remaining six millions for the liquidation of war expenses incurred through the bad faith and insolence of the Chinese Government. Another provision of this Treaty was the absolute cession to the British crown of the territory at Kowloon which not long before had been acquired on perpetual lease. One other clause, regarded by the Chinese perhaps as even more humiliating than the others, contained the provision that Her Britannic Majesty's Representative in China would henceforth reside, permanently or occasionally at Peking, as Her Britannic Majesty should be pleased to decide. From this time onward commerce has proceeded without serious interruption and has developed enormously. The foreign trade of China coming under the supervision of the Imperial Maritime Customs now amounts annually to over one hundred million pounds sterling and China derives from it a revenue of about thirty-five million taels.

Though the Treaties with China ostensibly established a friendship with the Western Powers there was no approach to friendship until about 1875 when China announced her intention to establish Missions and Consulates abroad. China invoked the aid of European Powers for the first time to secure the retrocession of the Liaotung peninsula which the Japanese had occupied in the war with China which broke out in 1894 in consequence of disputes regarding the independence of Korea, and ended in 1896 with the signing of the Treaty of Shimonoseki. Since the Peking Treaty was concluded no decade has been crowded with events of such momentous import as the last. Following the conclusion of the Japan-China war we witness in the panorama of events a scramble by the Western Powers for territory, for spheres of influence and for railway concessions in China. Germany seizes Kiaochow and obtains from China a lease of territory, Russia secures a usufruct of Port Arthur and Great Britain, to preserve the balance of power, leases Wei-hai-wei. Thereafter comes the scramble for railway concessions, in which Great Britain, Germany, France, America, and Belgium each secure important interests in China. The era of reform seemed suddenly to have dawned, but the cloud of the Boxer rebellion quickly came over the scene. Once again military intervention was necessary to protect the lives and property of foreigners in the very capital of the Empire, and we have the unique spectacle of the armies of many nations marching under the command of a single Generalissimo to Peking to exact retribution from the Chinese Government. The last great scene of all in the panorama of the last half century in China is the sanguinary war between Russia and Japan on Chinese territory. The astonishing completeness of the success achieved by Japan has changed the aspect of Eastern politics. England's offensive and defensive alliance with the island empire of the East guarantees peace in Asia and leaves all nations free of prosecute here the less sanguinary wars to commerce and industry. China has a very long way yet to go before her claims to admission to the comity of nations can be admitted, but the educational movement now abundantly in evidence in China, the establishment of railway communication in every part of this vast Empire, facilitat

ing-trade and commerce, inaugurates an era in the history of China which in the course of another half century will be fraught with results, not only to the Chinese nation itself but to the entire world, which we may leave the reader to himself forecast.

When we turn to Japan and view fifty years of progress there, we see much more rapid development. Japan was not really opened to foreign trade until 1858. Commodore Perry signed a preliminary treaty of commerce between the United States and Japan in 1854, and similar treaties with European powers followed, granting foreigners the right to reside and trade without molestation at Yokohama, Hiogo, Nagasaki, and Hakodate, but the early history of foreign intercourse was very similar in Japan to what it had been in China. In 1863 there was an attempt on the part of the Feudal lords to close the strait of Shimonoseki against the passage of foreign ships. A joint foreign naval expedition to the Strait resulted and the Japanese forts were bombarded and silenced. Two years later the Emperor at Kyoto accepted the commercial treaties which had been made by the Shogun at Yedo, and since the accession of the present Emperor, the history of Japan is an uninterrupted story of efforts to assimilate the Western arts and sciences and to bring herself in complete accord with Western nations in every department of public life. How magnificently she has succeeded in so short a period it is not necessary for us to dilate, upon for the story of Japan is more or less familiar to every reader. Possessing, as she has done all along, leaders of commanding ability like Marquis Ito, Count Okuma and scores of others who could be mentioned, an intellectual influence has been exercised over the minds of the people inspiring even the humblest with ideals of national power and industrial and commercial advancement. The newspaper press has been a powerful factor in this connection. Though like China, Japan had no newspapers until Englishmen introduced them. There are now in Japan upwards of a thousand vernacular papers published daily, while in China we doubt whether throughout the length and breadth of the land more than fifty daily newspapers can yet be counted. In shipbuilding, engineering, cotton weaving, and sugar refining Japan is continuing her marvellous story of progress. The end of the half century sees Japan building in her own shipyards battleships of 19,000 tons displacement, and passenger liners of 13,500 tons which compare favourably in their construction with the ships built in the shipyards of her Western tutors. At the present time Japan possesses a mercantile fleet of about 1500 steamers with a capacity in the aggregate of 1,000,000 tons, and her naval fleet ranks fourth or fifth in the list of the world's navies.

Coming southward again we note the change of ownership of the island of Formosa from the Chinese to the Japanese as one of the spoils of the war of 1894-5; and still further southward we witness the passing of the Philippines, also as the result of war, from the sovereignty of the Spanish to the more benevolent control of the United States whose Government has lavished money freely on works of public improvement in the islands, and notably on the education of the people, with the idea of helping them to rise in the scale of civilisation and of capacity for self-Government, hoping in the end that they will be able to stand, if not entirely alone, yet in some such relation to the United States as Cuba now stands.

In Siam the main feature of the past half century has been the settlement of the feud between the present King and his brother by the diplomatic arbitration of the late General Sir Andrew Clarke, and the peaceful development of the country since largely along western lines. Further southward we have to note the grand achievement of the federation of the Malay States, the prosperous development of Singapore, and the establishment of a British Protectorate over the territories of Sarawak, Brunei and British North Borneo.

The last fifty years embrace too the successful efforts of the French to enlarge their empire in Asia. It is nearly a century and a quarter since France first sought to create a dependency in Asia as a counterweight to British India. In 1787 Louis XVI. obtained for France a number of commercial and political privileges in Cochin China in exchange for assistance given in establishing on the Throne the rightful king of the territory who subsequently conquered and added to his domains the province of Tonkin. Thereafter the French scheme of an Eastern empire dropped out of sight until 1862 when a treaty was signed at Saigon conveying the southern provinces of Bien-Hoa, Gia-Dinh, and Dinh-Tuong with the island of Condor to the French. In 1874 a treaty was concluded at Saigon with the King of Annam by which the King recognised the sovereignty of France over all the territories occupied by her. The Tsungli-yamen immediately on the terms of the Treaty becoming known to them took strong exception to it. Annam was a dependency of China, and the right of the King to make a treaty without the sanction of his suzerain was strenuously repudiated. France refused to acknowledge the right of China to interfere in the matter and the two countries were brought to the verge of war. China, however, was not prepared for further overt measures than formal protests, but there is little doubt that the Chinese government secretly assisted with money marauding expeditions of the Black Flags from the mountain frontier between China and Tonkin. Their success against the French encouraged the King of Annam (who had lost no opportunity during the whole course of the dispute in emphasising his dependence upon China) to declare war against the French. The result was the French occupation of Hue, and the placing of a protégé of France upon the Throne with a French Resident to guide his policy. Annam again yielded by formal treaty her independence into French hands. Further military operations succeeded the announcement as a result of China's hostility to the treaty, but in 1884 a convention was signed by which China undertook to respect the treaties concluded between France and the King of Annam in exchange for an undertaking by France to protect against all aggression on the Southern frontiers of China and Tonkin. Since then France has been peacefully developing these territories, but though great expectations are formed of their future now that railways are spreading in all directions, the benefit of the colonies to France up to the present time has not been strikingly manifested.

The beginning of the half century under review saw the Portuguese settlement of Macao—the oldest foreign settlement on the China coast—in the hey-day of its prosperity. At the close we view it as a relic of the historic past rather than as an important centre of trade. It has not ceased to be a self-supporting Colony—it is even a pro-

fitable colony to the Mother Country, since it derives from the gambling monopoly which give to it the character and description of a Monte Carlo of East, an annual revenue largely in excess of its expenditure.

We have yet to comment upon the growth of the Colony of Hongkong. We have touched briefly on its acquisition; and we cannot illustrate its marvellous development better than by contrasting the statistics of 1857 with those of 1907. In 1857 the population of Hongkong was: Whites 1,411; Coloured 75,683. (In 1841 when the island was ceded to Great Britain the Chinese population was ascertained to be 5,650). The population of the Colony according to the census of November 1906 was: non-Chinese civil population 10,981; the Chinese land population 233,251, and the floating population 45,582. In 1857 the number of ships entered was 1070 of a total tonnage of 541,063. Now the number of ships entering the port every year averages about 20,000 and the aggregate tonnage exceeds ten millions, placing Hongkong in this respect above every other port in the world. The revenue of the Colony has advanced in fifty years from \$58,842 to \$6,526,144, exclusive of land sales, and the Colony has, in short, developed into a great distributing centre for international trade with China estimated at approximately to the figure of £60,000,000 sterling a year.

Imperfect as a sketch of the events of fifty years may be when compressed within the limits of a leading article, what we have written will sufficiently serve to show broadly what has been accomplished. The immediate future is pregnant with great possibilities in Asia. China at last seems to have definitely entered upon the path of progress. The success of her neighbour Japan which she affected to despise but little more than ten years ago has manifestly opened the eyes of China's leading statesmen to the effete condition of the celestial empire, and it is a remarkable sign of penitence and a pledge of reform when we read in Imperial Edicts a frank acknowledgement of the superiority of Western institutions and methods of government. The leaven of reform is clearly working in China, and what the next fifty years may hold for this vast empire and for the world at large as a result of the awakening of China, we would be a bold man who would attempt a prediction. But the signs and premonitions at the present time certainly point strongly to an early reformation, and that the lines adumbrated by Japan will be closely followed. When the *Daily Press* has to publish its next half century review it may have to chronicle in the case of China a marvellous change as the last fifty years have produced in Japan.

At Peking, on September 20th, was issued a decree in the name of the Empress Dowager acknowledging that a Constitution is necessary to the country. As the two Houses of Parliament cannot at once be inaugurated, it will be necessary first to establish an Assembly of Ministers to confer on state matters and to prepare the foundations of Constitutional Government. Prince P'u Lung and the Grand Secretary Sun Chia-ai are appointed to preside over the said Assembly and they are commanded to confer with the Grand Council on details and modes of procedure. Having settled upon these details are to be presented to the Throne for imperial sanction. There was also a decree in the name of the Empress Dowager granting Prince Chun the privilege of riding on horseback, and the Grand Secretary Chang Chih-ting the privilege of riding in a two-bearer sedan-chair within the precincts of the Western-gate of the Imperial Palace.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held on the 3th instant in the Council Chamber.

PRESENT:—

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, SIR FREDERICK JOHN DEALTRY LUGARD, K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O.

Hon. Mr. F. H. MAY (Colonial Secretary).

Hon. Mr. W. REES DAVIES (Attorney-General).

Hon. Mr. W. CHATHAM, C.M.G. (Director of Public Works).

Hon. Mr. A. W. BREWIN (Registrar General).

Hon. Mr. E. A. HEWETT.

Hon. Mr. H. KESWICK.

Hon. Dr. HO KAI, M.B., C.M., C.M.G.

Hon. Mr. WEI YUK.

Hon. Mr. E. OSBORNE.

Mr. A. G. M. FL TCHER (Clerk of Councils).

MINUTES.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read, and confirmed.

PAPERS.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—I have the honour to lay on the table by command of His Excellency the amended financial statement in connection with the estimates for 1908. In this statement, sir, it will be seen that the railway loan account is set forth separately from the stock account, and this separation will, I trust, render the statement more clear. I have also to lay on the table by command of His Excellency the Report of the Committee appointed to consider and make suggestions for dealing with the cubicle question.

FINANCIAL.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—I have to lay on the table Financial Minutes Nos. 46 and 47 and to move that they be referred to the Finance Committee.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—I have the honour to lay on the table the report of the Finance Committee Nos. 36 to 45 and to move its adoption.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL seconded and the motion was agreed to.

COMPANIES' ORDINANCE.

The ATTORNEY GENERAL moved the first reading of a Bill entitled an ordinance to amend the law relating to companies.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

THE ESTIMATES.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY moved the second reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to apply a sum not exceeding \$4,992,953 to the public service for the year 1908.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL seconded.

The Hon. Mr. HEWETT—Your Excellency, the estimates have now been before the unofficial members of the Legislative Council, and having had the advantage of hearing the remarks that Your Excellency made a fortnight ago, the unofficial members have since discussed these estimates and I have been requested to reply for them, though some of the others will have remarks of their own to make. In the first place I think we may sincerely congratulate Your Excellency on the very satisfactory financial condition of the Colony as set forth in the estimates now before us. Of course, as we are aware and as Your Excellency has pointed out, a very considerable proportion of our revenue is of a precarious nature, more particularly that portion derived from land sales and from the opium monopoly. At the present moment it is unquestionable that trade and business in general are very much depressed. If we required any proof of that statement it is found in the fact that all first class stocks are much depressed and the assessment of property in the city of Victoria is some four per cent below what it was last year. It is very evident that that increasing expenditure and still further reductions in the revenue to which Your Excellency has referred this year and to which your predecessor referred last year may continue and that the whole of the finances of this Colony will have to be reconsidered. There is therefore one point to which I particularly wish

to direct attention. I refer to the question of the military contribution. This was a very old and burning question as long ago as the sixties, when one of my predecessors in this Colony first resisted the imposition of the military contribution by the Home Government upon this Colony. And later the same gentleman has spoken against it in the House of Commons. Since then it has been repeatedly discussed and unofficial members have repeatedly complained of the excessive amount which we are called upon to pay by means of this military contribution. We are aware that the presence of a garrison adds to our prosperity, but the garrison is not maintained for our purposes but for imperial needs and not entirely for the benefit of the Colony. We do not consider that because we happen to be a crown colony we should be called upon to contribute one-fifth of our total revenue for military contribution, especially when we see self-governing colonies infinitely wealthier than ourselves only paying a very trifling amount or nothing at all towards a military charge. With all due respect to the powers who have levied this exaction upon the Colony I cannot but compare it to the nature of the stand and deliver demand from the highwayman who suddenly appears before us puts a pistol at our heads and says "pay twenty cents in the dollar" while we have to seek what consolation we may find in the thought that we have still 80 cents left for our own needs. The question of the military contribution is one which deserves consideration at an early date, I for one think and have always maintained that it is correct that the Colony should contribute something towards the imperial troops but for a small colony the sum of \$1,200,000, as is the amount of our contribution this year, is excessive. There is one charge which falls under the head of military contribution, with which I am entirely in accord. That is the vote of \$46,000 towards the Volunteers. I will not repeat what I have already said on this subject. It is very pleasing to learn that recruiting is going on satisfactorily but it is discouraging to find that when the Government proposes to found an infantry company so few of the younger members of this community come forward. I feel very strongly on the subject of the Volunteers from my past experience. I can only trust that the younger members of the Colony will come forward, knowing that the Government is straining every nerve to improve the status of Volunteers, and enlist as they should do. With regard to the Kowloon railway, to which there has been very considerable reference, we are all agreed that it is sound business policy to press forward the construction of that railway as promptly as possible and if Your Excellency during the following year should find it necessary to call for an extra vote to meet the needs of the railway I am quite sure the unofficial members will be only too glad to give it their support. It was hoped that when the railway was commenced that the work would be completed within three years but at the present rate of progress I do not see how it would be completed before five years. I understand that it is not a want of funds which is responsible for the delay but the want of trained foremen to supervise the detailed work. I understand that Your Excellency since the last meeting has visited the whole route of the railway and as it is a matter very near to your heart we feel confident that every effort will be made to press on with the work under your guidance. As we are aware it is of vital importance that the railway should be constructed and opened at the earliest possible date. It is estimated that within three years the section from our frontier to Canton will be completed and it is imperative that our portion should be ready at the same time. Those of us who have had experience in North China, Japan, and Indo-China are aware of the great development which follows the opening of railways and the enormous advantages to trade which accrues from any system of railways in the Far East. We are confident that the early opening of this railway must benefit not only the Colony but the Hinterland as well. With regard to the floating fire engine, the vote for which appeared in the estimates last year, and has been re-introduced this year, I pointed out

last year that, in my opinion, a floating fire engine was a luxury. It would be a good thing as a second fire engine is required so rarely, that the money should be expended in other directions. It has been suggested that further improvements are required in the fire department—that more powerful engines are required. I do not know whether it is the case or not but I believe that Your Excellency has given this matter your personal attention. If it is imperative that more powerful land engines be provided then they should be purchased. If not I would suggest that the money can be better spent in other directions. With regard to what your Excellency stated with regard to loans and taxation generally the unofficial members are entirely of one mind that it is inadvisable to pay for public works out of loans unless absolutely necessary. That necessity has not arisen at the moment. We also agreed that it is most inopportune to increase taxation. If it be necessary to raise fresh funds during the course of the next year the unofficial members are unanimously agreed that it would be advisable to do so by means of a small loan instead of by increased taxation. With regard to the question of revenue, as Your Excellency showed in your speech of a fortnight ago, our sources are very precarious, and we have reason to believe they will be still more precarious in the immediate future. I think it would be opportune representing the interests I do in this chamber, to remind Your Excellency of the views of the Chamber of Commerce. A letter was addressed to the Government quite recently concerning the state of the opium trade. The attempt made by the Chinese Government to put down the cultivation and consumption of opium in their own country would, I feel sure, be warmly supported by the Treaty Powers of China—certainly by the British Government—if the movement were a genuine one, but we must not allow the Chinese Imperial Government to take advantage of this movement which has arisen partly in China and partly at home to benefit their own trade at the expense of foreign trade. We know that the trade for many years has been very important not only for this colony but for the great empire of India, and we also know that the Chinese provincial officials have done everything in their power for many years past to discourage the opium trade, not because they were opposed to opium but because they saw in the foreign opium trade a very active agent working against their own personal interests. It is to the interest of the Chinese opium cultivator that the foreign opium should not compete against them. Foreign opium is carried throughout the whole empire free of likin and other duties on the passes issued by the Imperial Maritime Customs. That represents so much loss to the provincial officials and they do not like it. We know that many of them are taking advantage of what ought to be an honest attempt, to benefit their own interests. We have reason to believe that many are not sincere in their wish to put down production and consumption of opium but are working for their own pockets. With regard to subsidiary coinage, we hope that the experiment made by the Government in spending \$30,000 to \$40,000 a year in purchasing Hongkong subsidiary coinage will have the desired effect of rehabilitating our coinage at an early date. We are not yet in a position to say whether it will be a success or not. If it fails the Government will have to reconsider the question. In the meantime we are anxiously awaiting the report of the committee appointed by Your Excellency to consider this most important matter. The Chamber of Commerce addressed the Government last May on the subject. We pointed out that whatever steps may be taken by the Hongkong Government can only be of a local and temporary nature. We cannot possibly dissociate our coinage from that of the enormous empire to which we are in close proximity. The only real cure is to insist upon carrying out the provisions of the Mackay Treaty so that all mints shall be placed under imperial control and that there shall be a universal coinage for China. Coming to the very important question of public works, on which a large proportion of our revenue is spent, I regret to say that after careful and deliberate consideration, I cannot consider that the present state of affairs is at all satisfactory. Year by year we see important

works appear in the estimates and then withdrawn; nothing done, or very little done and the estimate carried on till next year—and so it goes on I think myself and after all due deliberation, that a great part of this delay might easily be avoided. There is unquestionably delay in the construction of Government works, notably the Law Courts and the Post Office. They are very prominent works at the present moment. Apart from the necessity of preparing plans, sending them home for approval and receiving them again, there has been unnecessary delay. I find that the estimates for the Law Courts appeared in 1900 and we were told by your Excellency that two years longer would be required to complete the Law Courts. At the present time, supposing the estimate is not exceeded, the Law Courts cost seven lakhs. Including \$ 00,000 put down for next year, the sum of \$550,000 will have been spent. There still remains \$200,000 to complete the building. I think it is quite reasonable to suppose that the Law Courts will take at least another two or three years before they are completed. And the same with the Post Office. It first appears in the estimates in 1903. Here again we have \$500,000 included in the estimate for next year, that is to say that in 1908 hardly more than half the appropriation for the Post Office shall have been expended. We are asked to believe that it will be completed in two years but it is more likely to be three or four years before it is inhabited. I submit that it is an absolutely unnecessary waste of public funds, that such large sums have been put into public buildings from which we get no return. We understand that these sums have to be spent and these buildings should be occupied as quickly as possible. Thus the Law Courts will have taken nine or ten years to complete and the Post Office seven or eight perhaps more, and in the meantime the Government are paying rent for the large building where part of the Government offices are located. A large profit has been lost to the Government during all these years through delay of the sale or rental of the land at present occupied by the Law Court and Post Office. This is very bad financing. There is another point that adds very much to the delay, the fact that the works are each in the hands of one contractor, and that contractor is allowed practically unlimited time in which to carry out the work. In addition to the time spent in laying the foundations and preparing the plans, etc.—presumably the foundations are laid after the plans have been completed—there is a good deal of delay in the preparation of the building material. The delay which is caused by bringing rough stone from the quarry and putting it in the narrow open spaces in front of the buildings to be dressed before being placed in position is incredible. My office is near the Post Office and I can see that the work does not progress as it should, while the cutting of the stone is a serious nuisance to anybody living in the neighbourhood and affects a large section of the business community at the present time. I have always marvelled ever since I came to Hongkong—many years ago—why Government buildings should be erected on this happy go lucky principle. One would have thought that they would have drawn upon the wisdom of the ancients and would have learned possibly to prepare building material in advance so as to get on rapidly with the work as did the ancient builders of whom we read “The stone was made ready before it was brought so that there was neither hammer nor axe nor any tool of iron heard in the house while it was in building.” That seems to be the practical way to deal with the situation. It is incredible that after two to three thousand years our Public Works Department should not have learned the lesson. I can only say that no business firm would undertake to build a new office for itself and wait eight or ten years for the completion of the building. It would be most unbusiness like. They could not afford to build on these lines. It is with very great regret that I learn that the second section of the Tytam scheme has been delayed. It is quite true we have to cut our coat according to our cloth. It is true that at the moment we have plenty of water. The last two seasons we have had late rains which have filled the reservoirs at the beginning of the dry season. In the past we have had a

succession of dry seasons and if we are to have another dry spell it does not follow that we shall not have another severe water famine. It seems most desirable that the scheme should be completed as quickly as possible. The same applies to the reclamation of insanitary areas, which is stopped for want of funds for another year. Another small but most important point is in connection with the training of nallahs, for which there is an allowance of \$2000. I trust that everything possible will be done to proceed with this work as soon as possible. With regard to the typhoon shelter, it is most disappointing that Your Excellency in the first place informed us that the present estimate for the work is nearly double what we were led to believe it would be. It was also disappointing to be told that during the next eighteen months it was not expected to spend more than the small sum of \$25,000 when the typhoon shelter is urgently required. We trust that the work will be proceeded with as promptly and rapidly as possible. The legislative Council is entirely in the dark as to how the sum of \$1,400,000 has been arrived at, when a previous estimate of \$800,000 was put before us. We do not want anything elaborate. We want an efficient breakwater sufficiently high to give protection to all the boats in the harbour and to look ahead for the next 50 years. In the meantime, whether the scheme is completed or not, it is still desirable that a small breakwater on this side of the harbour should be maintained, and that being so Causeway Bay should be dredged. At the present moment it is so shallow that about one-third is lost and a large number of boats are compelled to lie outside. On nine out of ten occasions the protection afforded is sufficient but leaving out of the question the disastrous typhoon of last year I remember a number of typhoons which have blown heavily from the west and boats which took refuge outside would have been inevitably wrecked by such storms. We consider the dredging of Causeway Bay is a matter of urgency. With regard to the condition of streets, I spoke on that subject last year and I am glad to find that certain suggestions which I made have been acted upon. These however are only details, the question of the general condition of the streets remains the same. I maintain we should no longer have macadamised roads in this colony. It cannot be contended that the question of wood paving is still in the experimental stage in view of the fact that different sections have been laid down in Hongkong for a considerable time. In other cities where similar climatic conditions prevail wood paving has proved absolutely satisfactory. Wood paving would be particularly useful on many roads in Hongkong and it might be laid along the tramway track. At present the condition of this track is most unsatisfactory and will remain so under existing conditions. As a case in point I might refer to the section in Icehouse Lane from Queen's Road to Des Voeux Road which is subject to very heavy traffic and is constantly undergoing repair. It would be interesting to know what cost has been incurred in repairing that small section during the past twelve months. I think it would probably have gone a long way towards wood paving. The initial expense of wood paving is heavy but once laid it would last for years. Respecting the Land Office at Taipei, I trust that it will not be long before permanent buildings are erected there. Presumably Taipei will remain the headquarters of the Government in the New Territory and if that be so permanent buildings should be erected. At the present time some of the staff are living in bungalows which is not a proper form of dwelling for Government officials who have to work hard during the day. Besides it is most wasteful, as they are often destroyed by typhoons, to say nothing of occasional fires such as were experienced a few weeks ago. On the subject of lake Pier shelter I trust it is introduced in the estimates for the last time. It is a small affair and there is no reason why it should not be carried through as speedily as possible. Before I leave the question of public works I can only repeat that I consider the works are unduly prolonged and dragged over an undue period of years. It is a wasteful and thriftless sort of policy to follow. Every year import-

ant public works are demanded and still works ten or fifteen years old are in the estimates. I am very glad to hear that Your Excellency has at last solved the question of communication with Gap Rock and though a cable is not a very satisfactory means of communication it seems to be the only one possible under the circumstances. We trust that the communication will speedily be restored. The new system of storm signals has proved entirely satisfactory. Your Excellency has made no reference to the Post Office at Tientsin which, it appears from the Press, was to be closed. It would be interesting to have an official statement on the matter. In the present estimates there is the sum of \$5,190 for the Tientsin agency. Speaking for the Chamber of Commerce we recognise that it is not reasonable to ask ratepayers to incur any excessive expenditure for such a service. It is part of a system of postal agencies which the British Government have maintained in different parts of China and it has been repeatedly set forth that it is a most important office to maintain not only on account of imperial policy but also for very practical reasons that merchants wish to have some reliable post office under their own flag through which they can send their correspondence. With regard to the Observatory unofficial members do not consider that it is necessary to have a committee appointed provided you are satisfied that the equipment is all that it should be. We are prepared to leave the matter in the hands of Your Excellency. I can only state that we much appreciate the steps you have already taken to improve communication with Indo-China. I think it may be worth your while to consider whether communication cannot be improved between Manila and Hongkong. The number of telegrams is limited but it could be increased if the Government are prepared to give a small sum. In any case we feel satisfied that entirely friendly relations will continue with those Jesuit fathers at Sicawei and Manila to whom we owe such a debt of gratitude. At the last budget I spoke on the question of salaries and I am glad to find that since then the Secretary of State has agreed to the principle that for the present the members of the Civil Service should not be paid less than ten dollars to the £. Coming to the form in which the estimates are presented, there has been as Your Excellency is aware a very great improvement during the last two years. There are one or two small points to which I would like to call attention. In the first place there is the question of indexing. I am afraid that the indexing of Government documents is very defective. To a man who wishes to consult estimates in a hurry it is annoying to have an experience such as I had the other day. I was looking up the index in connection with cemeteries. I expected to find the item I was searching for under the heading of “c” but after some trouble I found it under “p.” I cannot possibly conceive an index drawn up on these lines. Another point in the estimate is under the heading of public works, under which three overseers were mentioned. Evidence given before the late Commission showed that the whole time of an Executive Engineer was taken up in attending to work for the Building Authority while such little time as was left over was devoted to the question of a garbage destructor or to the resumption of insanitary properties. All duties carried out under the Building Ordinance. There are no doubt others equally engaged. If the 3 overseers are placed under a special heading why not all. They are all P.W.D. officials who are doing special Sanitary work. Of course the recommendation of the Commission was that they should be transferred to the Sanitary department. I would like to point out to your Excellency it would be a very great convenience if it could be arranged that when presenting estimates before the Council a statement should be given showing where estimates of works are likely to be exceeded. We find here for instance “Law Courts \$768,000” but nothing to show whether this sum is likely to be exceeded. In one case Tytam Tuk first scheme exceeded the estimated cost by \$150,000. That is a very large excess. The original estimates may also be exceeded in connection with the Law Courts and Post Office. Another suggestion I wish to make in connection with public works, in order that the finances of the Colony be best administered, is that the

original estimates should be adhered to. If there is any reasonable ground for supposing they are not, it would be well that a statement to that effect should be made. I had it in my notes, Sir, to refer to the manner in which expenditure on the railway was entered in the financial statement, or rather, the way in which it had not been entered. The original financial statement, as placed before the Council, showed a loan of one million, one hundred thousand odd pounds, and against that the sinking fund of £220,000 is entered. As your Excellency explained in your speech, the sinking fund did not exist as that money was being devoted to the railway. Your Excellency further referred in your speech to the possibility of a further loan having to be raised, and mentioned the sum of £450 for interest which, supposing the new loan is raised on the same terms as the last at 73/- per cent per annum represents the sum of £125,000. I think it would be certainly interesting if Your Excellency would explain whether it is probable that an extra sum of this amount will be asked for. I would suggest that in future proper statements should be made of the amount to be expended during the current year in the case of any very important public works. At the present moment, owing to the way the estimates are put before the Council, no one could possibly suppose the Government were engaged in an important railway construction. In page 88, under the somewhat discouraging heading of non-effective and charitable services—I trust that is not prophetic—is mentioned the sum of £,850 on railway construction. That is the only reference made in the estimates to the fact that the Government is engaged in a big railway scheme going to cost five or six millions. I regret having detained this honourable Council so long, Sir, but it appeared desirable to make the remarks that have occurred to me. There is yet one more subject to which I would refer. In Happy Valley there rest many who have done good work for the Colony—not only for the Colony, but for the Empire at large. And it should be our pride as well as our duty to maintain the monuments erected over them. The gardens are really in excellent order, but many of the graves have been allowed to gradually disappear into flower beds and shrubberies. I think careful examination of the ground will justify the assertion made. Within the past few years a sum has been set aside for the re-laying of graves, and it is not unreasonable to ask that a larger sum be voted for the entire restoration of the graves of those who lie there. These include graves of all grades from the high official to the bluejacket and private soldiers who lost their lives through wounds or disease in the service of their country, and also large number of civilians who have done good work for the Colony. I think we should keep their memory green by retaining the memorials of those who so generously served where we now reap.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE.—Sir, On the evening of 22nd September 1874, to quote from Dr. Eitel's History of Hongkong, the severest disaster that ever befell Hongkong since 1841, was a typhoon of unprecedented suddenness and power, which resulted in business being at a complete standstill for several days. Over 2000 lives were lost within the space of 6 hours and 30 minutes; vessels, trusting in their anchors, were wrecked or badly injured. The screams of Chinese in distress on the water, were heard by residents on the upper levels of the town, to rise above the terrific din of the storm. The amount of property destroyed in Hongkong within those six terrible hours was estimated at five million dollars. But very little was done to utilise the lessons taught by this typhoon. Change these figures, Sir, into a duration of two hours, exacting a toll of probably 10,000 lives with twenty millions worth of property, and Dr. Eitel's picture of 1874 portrays exactly the disaster that befell this Colony just over a year ago. The purpose of my quotation however lies not in raking amongst painful reminiscences, but to give point to Dr. Eitel's concluding sentence that very little was done by the citizens of that day to profit by the lessons taught them, and I wonder to myself how far the future historian will truthfully pen such words of us. The history of Hongkong, Sir, is burdened with

records of these dangerous storms meaning so much to those whose lives are passed upon the frail craft that ply the waters of our harbour; so much to shipping, the life blood, as we are apt to put it, of a Colony boasting the largest tonnage in the world. And what have we, with the lessons of 1874 and subsequent typhoons before us, what have we done to nourish this life blood, to protect the craft so essential to its being; to preserve the port against the evil reputation of being a dangerous anchorage? From the records of the Observatory now 25 years old, it would be interesting to learn how many times during that period we have suffered actual contact with typhoons and how many times they have, so to speak, grazed our door, and the Colony escaped by a hair's breadth. And what have we done during those 25 years? Absolutely nothing; indeed, worse than nothing, because we have permitted the Causeway Bay shelter, built in 1882 by men who, notwithstanding Dr. Eitel's strictures, were in this respect better men than we, we have permitted this shelter to silt up to such an extent, that at low water a large proportion of it is dry land. A year ago public and official opinion were agreed that a new shelter was a work of urgent necessity and a new shelter was accordingly decreed, but, a year has gone, Sir, and this work of urgent necessity has apparently not passed the initial stage of plans and discussion. From your Excellency's remarks when introducing the estimates I gather that the breakwater is to cost \$1,400,000, of which \$250,000 are provided for next year. The figures, Sir, are ominous; fourteen hundred thousand dollars, at \$2,000 a year means 56 years to complete, and were it not for your Excellency's promise that more than \$250,000 will be spent if need be, I should be inclined to judge from its beginning, that the end of the scheme was a very long way off. It has always appeared to me that, considering the modest sum generally available for public works, we spend too much in the direction of permanent and grandeur. From the engineer's point of view no doubt the most expensive work is in the long run the cheapest, and it certainly reflects greater credit on its author; but from the other point of view, that of the community, chafing at delay in the prosecution of municipal improvements, I think, although I yield to no man in recognising the value of imposing and substantial public buildings, I think in our circumstances we would profit more were we to utilise what little money we possess rather in satisfying the people's needs than in gratifying our own natural but expensive appetite for splendour. The people's most pressing need is this typhoon refuge, and as such the work calls for speedy completion, even at a sacrifice of architectural luxury in other works. We seem to be capable only of extremes. For years we endured ramshackled, insanitary unsuitable markets, fit only for the flames; then having funds we indulge in structures like the Central and Western markets, too costly for our purse, unnecessarily good for their purpose. Kowloon asks in vain for a market, for nothing short of a similar building will suffice, whereas in reality \$10,000 will give all that is needed. Blake Pier has ever been shelterless except for an occasional match erected in honour of Royalty or to welcome a new Governor, and so the Public blisters in the sun, because nothing short of magnificence will suffice, when in reality all that is needed is a small unpretentious covering, costing \$5,000. And thus it is with roads. Your Excellency has referred to an industrial future for Hongkong. Industrial success, Sir, needs cheap land, cheap dwellings for the workers, which in turn necessitate the opening of new areas by roads. But no new roads are forthcoming because our policy is to make spacious drives such as Gascoigne road, 100 feet wide, metalled from kerb to kerb, when the wiser course, it seems to me, would be to plan the 100 foot road, but metal only such portion as is needed for immediate traffic, thus permitting expenditure on other roads through undeveloped districts, as should be done in the direction of Lai Chi Kok and Chin Wan. It may interest your Excellency to know that no road communication exists with the large suburb of Kowloon known as Sam Sui Po. And so with the Harbour office, Law Courts and Post office, and so I fear will it be with this typhoon shelter unless your Excellency

applies a ruthless pruning. To pay for this work the Government proposes, I understand, to draw on the Colony's reserve, which I think a pity because reserves should, as a matter of principle, be utilised only as a last resource, and we are not yet at our last resource. There is for instance under weigh a huge and expensive waterworks scheme concerning which it seems to me economy might be effected; and here I disagree with the Hon. Member for the Chamber of Commerce for assuming the present storage capacity to be sufficient, as I understand is the case, to give a moderate allowance per head throughout the dry season, then further expenditure on the scheme is uncalled for, until we have money to spare. The correct solution of this water problem is, I submit, to allow the Chinese in their houses an unlimited supply during months of plenty, and to limit them, and indeed non-Chinese also, for as much waste goes on in European dwellings as in Chinese street hydrants, during months of scarcity. The funds thus freed from waterworks would be available for the typhoon refuge, and I submit, Sir, that on every ground of economy and equity, funds so applied in the protection of life and property are more rightly applied than in providing a constant flow of water for ignorance and stupidity to waste. On the question of taxation I again disagree with the Hon. Member and shall probably find myself at variance with most people. Excepting for the Chinese this Colony is the permanent home of very few; almost all are here in the hope, and with the intention of acquiring sufficient wealth to enable them to quit it for their native land, at the earliest opportunity; the Chinese only differ from the rest in that their homes are so conveniently near that they are able to make use of the place till the day of their death. Hongkong is their place of business, the neighbouring mainland their home, and the nearer railway development brings their home, so much the more will they cease to have interest in Hongkong except as a counting house, workshop or safe deposit. If then such be the case, if the Colony exists purely and simply as a trading centre, then obviously the community's interests lie as indicated by your Excellency in the direction of industrial development, and seeing that development in our case is impossible without taxation, then it seems to me the community, in its own interest, is eminently one to be taxed; and this typhoon shelter, as a phase of development, if not possible under ordinary sources of revenue, should be paid for by additional taxation. During a rather long residence in the Colony, I have had exceptional opportunities of coming into contact with the boating population; and though like most humanity their character is a blend of the good and the bad, there is one quality they possess in a marked degree, which has always commanded my deep admiration, and that is their patient philosophic bearing under circumstances of trial and suffering. In their name Sir, and apart from the commercial aspect to which I have alluded, in the name of thousands who have already suffered in silence the misery wrought by these destructive storms, I appeal to your Excellency that there shall be no further delay in giving them the shelter which it is our clear and bounden duty to provide.

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS.—With regard to the remarks of a somewhat severely critical nature which have fallen from my honourable friend opposite, I would offer some observations. He made a general statement first of all that works were entered in the estimates and carried over without anything being done. This statement, unfortunately, was made in general terms, otherwise it might have been somewhat easier to reply to it. At a matter of fact, in the present year's estimates the works which have not been undertaken so far are the Tytam Tuk scheme, second section, which is entered with an estimate of \$200,000; Branch Post office, Wanchai, \$6000; Blake Pier Shelter, \$20,000; and resuming and filling in the fish pond at Taiipo \$9,000. With these exceptions all the works appearing on the estimates have been begun. It had been decided that the second section of the Tytam Tuk scheme should not be gone on with, and therefore that is sufficient reason for not having

incurred any expenditure. The Branch Post Office at Wanchai, it has also been decided to postpone. With regard to Blake Pier, an indent has gone home for the necessary material to erect a covering, but it is not expected that it will be received in time to be erected during the current year. As to the resuming and filling in of the fish pond at Tai-po, the necessary resumption has been carried out, but it has been decided to employ the funds intended on works of greater importance. In place of these works we have undertaken the building of a slaughter house and animal depot at Kowloon at an estimated cost of \$70,000. This was rendered necessary on account of the railway work. We now have undertaken the erection of officer's quarters at aipo, estimated to cost over \$21,000. The extension of the medical staff quarters was rendered necessary by giving up the private nursing institute which has been in vogue for sometime, and a considerable amount of time has been devoted to the preparation of particulars with regard to the boat refuge on which my honourable friend at the head of the table has said a good deal. Coming now, Sir, to the works that are in progress, about which my hon. friend opposite stated that great delays had occurred, I would preface my remarks by stating that according to records in my possession the Hotel Mansions were nearly six years in construction, and St. George's and the Royal Building seven years. The foundations of the Law Courts was laid in July 1900, and it is expected that it will be completed in 1910, or ten years from the date of commencement. The present contract was let in July 1903. Some delay occurred, Sir, in connection with that contract. When tenders were called for, the lowest that could be obtained from a reliable contractor was for \$330,000. I could not see my way, Sir, to advise the Government to let such a contract. After some delay, in which an attempt was made to carry out the work departmentally, a contract was let for \$483,200, a saving of \$146,800. Even if the work has taken a little longer under that contract, I submit the delay is justified by the saving effected. The buildings, Sir, can scarcely reasonably be compared to those surrounding, because it is of an entirely different character. The foundation is of stone with huge granite blocks from the top to the bottom. Every surrounding with some slight exception the exception being imposed on the owners by the Building Ordinance as regards the use of granite on the ground floor, is built of brick and plaster, and if the Colony desire, such buildings can be erected at a much greater speed than granite buildings. The designs for the new buildings were prepared by eminent architects at home under instructions from the Secretary of State, and it cannot be said anybody here was responsible for them. With regard to the Post Office the foundation contract was let in December 1903, and it is expected that the building will reach completion in 1911, or eight years after it was undertaken. Comparing that, Sir, with the surrounding buildings I don't see that there is much to cavil at. In the case of that building I venture to say that it is of a very superior class to those immediately surrounding it. The hon. member said there must be a great loss to the Government through the delay in selling land. I can only say in reply to that, that if land was available for sale at the present moment my advice to the Government would be not to sell it as the time is not an opportune one for selling land in my opinion, and I don't see that the Government is suffering a great loss. As regards the preparation of building material, with the tools available here it is almost necessary to execute on the site, otherwise the delay, I fear, would be greater than under the present system. Take the case of the Law Courts: the stones are not interchangeable to any extent, and occasionally happens when one stone gets damaged it is necessary to wait until another is brought across from the quarry. No obvious gain would result from a change from the present system to any other. As regards the draining of nullahs, that is a work that has been actively carried on for a good many years, and if the hon. member will refer to the estimates he will see that a large expenditure has been incurred on it during the past year. Regarding the typhoon refuge, Sir, the hon. member stat-

ed that members were not in a position to judge how the estimate was arrived at. It certainly has not been the custom to give hon. members detailed estimates, nor do I think it would be a prudent course to adopt. Regarding the dredging of Causeway Bay, it has been before the Council on previous occasions. The estimate showed that the cost was so very great that it was decided not to do anything with it. The paving of our streets is a mere question of money. It was intended to include in this year's estimates a small sum of money for laying down wood paving in Icehouse Street. That, Sir, was struck out as the money was required for more urgent and important works. As I have already stated the Tai-po Land Office, one of the works appearing in this year's estimates, is in progress. With regard to the classification of the staff in the estimates, I would say that the mere statement with regard to the Building Ordinance overseers is not in any way peculiar. If hon. members will look at the estimates they will see that the subordinate staff is divided under the various heads in which they are employed, and the senior officers all appear under the heading of engineer staff. The graves in Happy Valley are now receiving a certain amount of attention as regards keeping the headstones in order, and that will continue to be done. Some, unfortunately, are in such a condition that it would not be possible to restore them. My hon. friend at the end of the table referred to the permanence and grandeur of the public works in Hongkong. Well, Sir, I submit in that respect they are not peculiar. In every town, wherever you go, public buildings are always prominent by reason of their character, and I don't think it would appeal to the general public that our buildings should be of the inferior class that he desires to introduce. As regards laying out the main roads at Kowloon, a former colleague of my hon. friend advocated making the roads 120 feet wide, so it is obvious it is impossible to please everybody. He stated that Gascoigne Road was metalled from kerb to kerb. If that is so I was not before aware of it and have heard it for the first time. I don't think that in the matter of this road any undue extravagance has been perpetrated.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—Sir, the member nominated by the Chamber of Commerce began his interesting address by a reference to the military contribution, and he likened the ratepayers of this Colony to the victims of a money hungry highwayman—I presume the Secretary of State for the Colonies, who with pistol presented at the heads of these unfortunate ratepayers, demanded and ordered them to pay 20 cents military contribution out of every dollar. Now, Sir, I venture to think that the picture is very much overdrawn, and having regard to the fact that the particular Secretary of State who had to do with the question of fixing the military contribution, was the Secretary of State under whose aegis I entered this service, the reference to him as a highwayman rather grates upon my nerves. What are the facts, Sir? The contribution of this Colony towards the cost of the garrison was originally £20,000 per annum, plus a proportion of the annual cost of the permanent defences. After some years the contribution was raised to £40,000 a year, plus a proportion of the fixed defences, and soon after that happened the Imperial Government suggested to this Government that, if the community of the Colony, as represented by the unofficial members of the Legislative Council, were prepared to make the bargain, they would alter the permanent contribution of £40,000 a year plus a proportion of the annual cost of the fixed defences, to 17½ per cent. of the revenue plus such proportion of the fixed defences. The question was very fully gone into, and the advice of the unofficial members was taken thereon. At that time 17½ per cent. of the revenue plus the estimated proportion of the cost of the fixed defences fell a good deal below £40,000 plus such proportion, and the wisacres at the Council table thought that the best thing they could do was to close with the offer, for apparently, although there was included amongst them a long-headed and very far-sighted man in the person of Sir Paul Chater, they did not anticipate that the revenue of the Colony would increase so much as it has done. Anyway, they

made the bargain and a law to that effect was duly passed through this Council with every publicity. Subsequently it was again suggested that perhaps the Colony would prefer to pay a fixed percentage of its revenue, 20 per cent in lieu of 17½ per cent, and the rather indefinite annual contribution to the fixed defences. That proposal commended itself to the representatives of the community, and a law embodying it was duly passed, and under that law we have been paying, and I think on the whole cheerfully paying, 20 per cent of our revenue. Now, Sir, I contribute to that military contribution myself, and I think that every colonist in this Colony ought to continue to contribute to the military contribution cheerfully. It was only the other day when I was on leave that I was living in the house of a brother of mine in London. For every £100 of rent that he pays I found he paid no less than 47 golden sovereigns in rates and taxes. That is taxation with a vengeance! I did not stop there long, and I went down to a very countrified part of England in the County of Suffolk, and in one of its towns—they are pleased to call it a town, I would call it a village—I rented a house and lived there for the best part of a year. I found in that very countrified place that for every £100 rent you paid, you were paying somewhere in the neighbourhood of £25 per annum in rates and taxes. In my native city, Dublin, you have got to pay about £30 in every £100, and these are the taxpayers who would be mulcted in the difference between our present contribution of 20 per cent of our revenue and whatever sum the hon. member nominated by the Chamber of Commerce would have that contribution reduced to. For my part, Sir, rather than see the heavily burdened tax payers of Great Britain have further burdens cast upon them I would like to see the colonists of this Colony take some further burden upon their own shoulders (hear, hear). The hon. member, Sir, went on to speak about what to me was a much more congenial subject, and it enabled me as an old fireman to transport myself in imagination at least, from the air of my office, which is next door, laden as it is with the scent of red tape, to the exhilarating atmosphere which always pervades the scene when water, with puny man's intelligence at its back, does mighty battle with the flaming hosts of fire. It is somewhat of a surprise Sir, to find the hon. member throwing in his vote for a land engine as against a floating engine. I should have expected him, as the representative of a great shipping interest to have voted the other way.

Hon. Mr. HEWATT—If a land engine is necessary, I don't say it is!

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—Is it possible that he is so tired of some of the vessels which his principals send out to deal with the China trade, that he would view with a certain equanimity a holocaust of one or more of them in the harbour of Hongkong? Sir, this question of adding to our fire extinguishing appliances was raised in 1905. After careful consideration, and on the advice of the Superintendent of the Fire Brigade, it was decided that if any addition were made it were best made in the form of a fire float. The question is one that interests the public, and I may perhaps be excused running over briefly the arguments in favour of a fire float as against an additional land engine. In the first place with a constant water supply there is no need for any pumping engine on land. With the rider main system laid down it is to be hoped we shall not often suffer any intermittent system, and with the Tytam Tuk second section in view it is perfectly certain that in a few years we shall never suffer from an intermittent water supply. Therefore, Sir, any expenditure in addition to the land fire engines now, would inevitably become useless in a very short time. A floating fire engine is as good as a land engine in this Colony because the more valuable buildings and godowns lie close to the Praya and the floater can deal with them just as well and even better than a land engine. Ninety per cent of the fires in this town occur at or below the Queen's Road level, which can be served by a float engine as well as by a land engine. Another argument, Sir, in favour of a new floater is that when you have only one floater it may be laid up when needed. At the present moment the floater is laid up, and if a fire occurred this

afternoon on board a ship in the harbour we are in the position of having nothing to cope with it. The old float has only one boiler and one set of engines. During an intermittent supply it is kept on this side of the harbour under banked fires, but you must draw the fires sometimes to clean the tubes and boilers. You cannot keep a vessel under banked fires indefinitely. The new floater would be supplied with two boilers and two sets of engines to have her always ready at a moment's notice, without laying her up at all. Lastly, Sir, since the old floater was bought, the tonnage of vessels in this harbour has increased so enormously that the existing float is not able to cope with a fire on board these ships. When a fire occurs on board a ship it is generally a question of filling her hold with sea water, and it is a question how many thousand gallons per minute you can pump into the vessel. The old engine could never cope with 5000 ton vessels such as we now have in the harbour. It is eminently desirable that a much more powerful engine should be purchased to deal with these big ships. The hon. member referred to the Tytam Tuk scheme and insanitary areas, and regretted the omission of the provision of funds in the estimates for the current year. The Government also, Sir, regrets the omission, but it had only one alternative, or at least, three alternatives. They could have raised a loan for works; increased taxation for works; or they could let them stand over. I think that the Government adopted a wise course in postponing these works for one year and seeing what the new year will bring them. The hon. member complained that the estimates for railway construction was not included in the estimates, but I would remind him that the railway is being built out of loan, and is a transaction entirely of loan. It is true there is one item included in the estimates—interest on the advances made for this railway from the loan to the Viceroy of Wuchang. It was a question whether the charge of that interest should not more properly fall on the railway fund, and if it had been so decided there would have been no mention at all in the estimates of any railway expenditure. The Government, Sir, when I had the honour of occupying the chair your Excellency now occupies, laid on the table full information of the estimated expenditure on the railway for the current year, and took a vote for that expenditure, and the Government will, before the end of the year, similarly deal with the expenditure for next year, and give the fullest possible information any member wishes on the whole subject. The hon. member who spoke second, Sir, referred to the Tytam Tuk second section as an extravagant scheme, and expressed the opinion that, if we resorted to street fountains for the water supply of both the native and European community, the provision for additional storage for water would not be necessary. Sir, I would remind him that this question was threshed out some few years ago, and it was decided, principally on sanitary grounds, and also for the reason that the taps had been in the houses since completion of the distribution of the water throughout the city of Victoria; that it would be better to leave them there and deal with the subject of economising the water by means of the rider main system. The decision having been arrived at, Sir, and the rider main system introduced, the Government is not prepared to reopen that question. I beg to assure the hon. member that the scheme he refers to is by no means an extravagant one, and I think if he were to pay a visit to the director of Public Works, that gentleman would very soon convince him of its necessity in the near future. Sir, the hon. member nominated by the Chamber of Commerce, adverted to other questions that I may call high local and higher imperial policy, such as the recent two loans and the opium question. These, Sir, I will leave in your more experienced hands. I am also sure your Excellency would rather explain the matter of the closing of the Tientsin Post Office than that I should do so.

HIS EXCELLENCY—In the question of loans and taxation which has been raised by two members on my right, I was glad to see that both members who spoke on that question agree with me in principle, and I think brought cogent reasons to bear in support of my argument. It is not a convenient time in which the Colony

should embark on any further raising of loans. The only alternatives we have, then, are either increased economy or increased taxation. I think, as I said when I spoke at our last meeting, that in the matter of economy we have done the utmost we can in this year's estimates in the scheme of works which we have put forward for the current year, and at present we have not reached a point at which it is necessary to cut down our permanent establishments with a too drastic hand. There remains therefore, only the question of further taxation. That, as I said before, will receive my most careful consideration during the coming year. The hon. member on my left gave us some very striking figures on taxation and rates at home, and I think if any hon. member will take the trouble to work out the enormous incidence of taxation he will find it bears a strikingly small proportion to what the ratepayer at home has to pay. The hon. member at the end of the table frankly supported some form of increased taxation if any work of great magnitude or great urgency were called for, or if our revenue, I presume he would also say, fell below the margin. Gentlemen, I welcome that communication from the unofficial members. I am in very cordial agreement with what the hon. member at the end of the table said with regard to the typhoon shelter. There seems to me to have been a little misunderstanding on the subject. The Government does not say that the scheme under consideration will cost \$1,400,000. On the contrary, it was intended to convey that the amount put forward on the estimate revised by the Government was somewhere nearer the original estimate. The inauguration of the work, which may possibly be extended to a larger and more effective shelter is contemplated. The delay arising in this matter is, I think, very regrettable. At this time last year my predecessor pledged the Government to undertake the work immediately without delay. A year has gone by and nothing has been done—I mean to say done in actually beginning the work. The reason is that unexpected difficulties have been found in making the plans for it and deciding where the shelter should be. I trust that reduced estimates will be able to be considered without any unnecessary delay whatever (applause). One other point in this connection is that the hon. member said the Government only proposed to spend \$25,000 on the scheme next year. He deprecated any recourse to the reserve of the Colony, and said it was the last resource to which the Government should be driven. The reserves have accumulated in what way? They are the savings from year to year of works projected and never fully carried out, or unexpected windfalls sometimes accruing from rising exchange; at other times payments that have fallen from probate duties or have been acquired in various ways of that kind. I think that reserve accumulated from such sources may be looked upon as current revenue rather than in the nature of a loan or of a reserve that has accumulated in such a way that it should not be touched by the Colony. However, hon. members will have sufficient opportunity of discussing the question later if the project should be put before them, and I propose that you should vote from the reserves sufficient to meet the extra expenses required for the typhoon shelter. It may also be possible during the course of the year, if we find the Colony is working within the revenue, to pass a vote for the approval of a small sum from the current revenue to increase the initial sum of £25,000 which we will pass in the estimates. I also agree fully with the remarks made by the hon. member at the end of the table that with a falling revenue it would be better to devote our funds to the urgent needs of the community rather than on splendour on public works. His criticism was directed towards some public offices now under construction, and was hardly a fair one. These works were projected many years ago—six or seven as we have heard—and at a time when the Colony felt in a position to spend much more on its public works, rather more than it can to-day if we had to begin any similar works with a falling revenue. In the matter of roads too, criticism of some sort was made. I have already been in consultation with the Director of Public Works regarding roads in the New Territories

and I hope to be able to devise some scheme for their gradual construction, as is done largely in Africa. The method there is to construct a whole section partially, and year by year go on improving until it becomes a road. I think myself that that is the more useful way of immediately gaining the practical utility we desire for traffic. With regard to the Post Office at Tientsin, hon. members will remember that this Government undertook on a very definite pledge to open a post office at Tientsin for one year, which would end on the 1st October this year. We have found that the cost to this Government has been very considerable. It has been run at a dead loss, and this was not anticipated at the time. For the first few months the working promised to be a success, and in consequence of various causes which I described when last speaking, we anticipate a very much greater loss next year on Postal Agencies in China, and more especially those towards the north, as we are likely to see the Siberian route opened. The Tientsin agency shows a deficit of \$7,000 or \$8,000. In these circumstances I did not feel justified in calling upon the ratepayers of this Colony to pay what, after all is for the convenience of the mercantile community at Tientsin. At the same time I said that, if they were prepared to meet the deficit, we shall be very glad to continue to run the Post Office provided this Colony is not involved in any deficit for its maintenance. The question is still under discussion, and the Chamber of Commerce made an offer to pay half the deficit, so I hope a matter will presently be arranged in which we shall continue to accept the onus of running the Post Office, but I can assure ratepayers they will not have to pay for the convenience of the merchants of Tientsin. I have nothing of much moment to say on the question of opium, but I fully endorse the hon. member's view that we as part of the British nation should support any genuine effort on the part of China to limit her production, and to limit her consumption of opium. I am at the same time fully alive to the necessity to this Colony of the opium trade, and shall oppose any concession not based on reciprocity (applause). I think we have our own interests to guard in the matter, and until we are convinced that China is genuine in her efforts in so far as she will, go, we should not lag behind. I think myself it is our duty not to go beyond that point. In the matter of subsidiary coinage I am glad to see the unofficial members generally support the action which the Government has already taken. I concur with you that the real solution is carrying out Article 2 of the Mackay Treaty. I trust the committee appointed will arrive at some solution, and at any rate formulate some useful suggestions. I am myself very strongly impressed with the view the hon. member for the Chamber of Commerce expressed that we are part and parcel of the Chinese Empire, and that any action we take with regard to our coinage must be governed by that central fact.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY moved that the Bill be read a second time and referred to the Finance Committee.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The following bills—An ordinance to provide for the appointment of public notaries, An Ordinance to prevent the Publication of Seditious Matter and Ordinance to amend the Local Communities Ordinance were read a second time.

The Council was adjourned till next Thursday.

Full reports of the discussions on these bills will appear in our next issue.

At the annual meeting of the Hongkong Hockey Club held on Oct. 1st in the Cricke-Club pavilion—Mr. J. Barton in the chair—the annual report was adopted, the Chairman commenting with pleasure on the fact that they had a credit balance in both the club and challenge cup funds. Mr. T. C. Gray was elected secretary and treasurer and the following were appointed to the Committee. Lieut. Atterthwaite, Messrs. L. G. Bird, H. F. C. Master, A. F. B. Livesey, and T. M. Knott. Mr. L. G. Bird was elected Captain.

JUBILEE OF THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."

1857—1907.

October 1st, 1907.

The *Daily Press* to-day attains its Jubilee, and by way of marking the interesting occasion we take pleasure in presenting to each subscriber a fac-simile copy of the first number of the paper, dated October 1st 1857. The *Daily Press* was the first daily newspaper published in China, and we believe we are entitled to claim for the *Chung Ngai San Po* (Chinese *Daily Press*) the distinction of being the pioneer Chinese newspaper. It commenced publication on November 1st, 1857, and will therefore attain its jubilee a month hence. The Chinese paper was first published only three times a week, but the support given to the venture was so encouraging that in due course of time it was issued daily.

Yet another *Daily Press* publication is entitled to mention in this connection—the mail edition of the *Daily Press*. In the form in which it was first published it was a bi-monthly summary of intelligence "whether political, commercial, shipping, or general, comprising: all market information and prices current from all the ports of China and Japan and also from Manila." It was known as the *China Overland Trade Report*, a title which at once suggests its age, the word "Overland" carrying our reflections back to the days prior to the opening of the Suez Canal. Before 1869 the mails to Europe had either to be taken by sea all the way round the Cape of Good Hope, or by sea to Suez thence overland to Alexandria, where there was steamship connection with the principal ports of Europe. The latter was of course the quickest route, and the object of incorporating the word "Overland" in the title was doubtless to emphasise the fact that the "Summary" was published for dispatch by the quickest route. When submarine cables brought the uttermost part of the earth into rapid communication with each other, and when the fast steamship began to supersede the sailing ship and regular communication with the various parts of the world came to be established, trade conditions began to wear another aspect. Fortnightly trade reports and prices current ceased to have the same value, when by submarine cable the price of the hour was obtainable, and in course of time when a Weekly Mail service to Europe was established the mail edition of the *Daily Press* and the *China Overland Trade Report* were merged into one publication under the present title of *Hongkong Weekly Press and China Overland Trade Report*.

Though the annual *Chronicle and Directory* published at the *Daily Press* Office cannot be associated in the celebration with the trio of publications already mentioned, it is near enough to fifty years of age to justify mention in this connection. Glancing at the bookshelves and noting how the volume has expanded year by year since 1863 from a thin book of 200 pages to a portly tome of nearly 2,000 pages one may form on the instant some idea of the marvellous growth of foreign intercourse with China and other parts of Asia during the past half century.

THE HISTORY OF PRINTING IN CHINA.

Our concern to-day however, is with the *Daily Press*, and inasmuch as the art of printing is reputed to be a Chinese invention and China, moreover, has the distinction of possessing in the *Peking Gazette* a publication often alluded to as the oldest newspaper in the world, it may not be uninteresting to many readers if we preface our remarks on the birth of the *Daily Press* by a brief allusion to the history of printing in China, and follow it up with some reference to the publication of the earliest foreign newspapers.

The art of printing began to be practiced in China in the tenth century, A.D., about five hundred years before it was known in Europe. The method first adopted was to engrave the characters on stone, so that when the impressions were taken the letters were white while the surrounding surface of the paper was black. This method was superseded by the invention of wooden blocks. The copy, written on very thin paper, was pasted on plain blocks of wood or wax. All

the blank parts were neatly cut away, and as the letters were left raised on the surface they were an exact representation of the manuscript. This method was an entire reversal of the old method, the letters now being printed black on a white surface. There were no presses in China such as came into use in Europe. The Chinese printer worked with two brushes fastened on both ends of a stick. With one brush he inked the block, and after he had laid the paper on the block he took the impression by passing the other brush over the paper. This system, continued down to the middle of the nineteenth century when Chinese moveable metal types were first made by a firm of English type founders. We may see the old system still in use, for printing those scarlet visiting cards (or papers) used by the Chinese on ceremonial occasions.

The interesting fact should be mentioned that long before the invention of printing the Chinese had "a vast number of books." Ch'iao-ti, a title signifying First Emperor, who reigned about two hundred years before the Christian era and whose name is imperishably associated with the building of the Great Wall of Peking, achieved infamy by ordering that all books and writings of every description should be collected and burned by the magistrates in each district throughout the Empire. So strictly was this decree carried out, that many literary men were put to death for being detected in an attempt to save valuable records. The tyrant, whose mischievous ambition had tempted him to commit this act of madness, did not entirely succeed in his object however, for several copies of the work of Confucius and other eminent authors were successfully hidden and preserved until the times had changed. These were, of course Manuscript Books. Before the invention of printing a vast number of men must have been employed in China copying books, and even the invention of printing by means of wooden blocks did not apparently greatly diminish the number. Down to within fifty years ago the *Peking Gazette* was known to the majority of its readers only as a daily manuscript. Though the "Gazette" is spoken of as the oldest newspaper in the world, it is a newspaper only in a very limited sense. It is simply the official medium of communicating the decrees of the Court at Peking, and until Chinese moveable metal type came into use, about sixty years ago, the "Gazette" was known to the majority of its readers only as a daily manuscript. Very few impressions were taken in Peking from the old wooden or waxen blocks, and these copies were distributed by imperial couriers to the head officials in the provincial capitals. From the few copies that reached Canton or any other provincial capital many more were transcribed and the news circulated in various forms according to the wishes of those who sought it. In their best style the "Gazette" in the provinces formed a daily manuscript in small octavo of about forty pages, but in an inferior style they appeared only once in two days, and then did not contain more than fifteen or twenty pages.

It is remarkable that while almanacs, calendars and Provincial Court circulars, as well as the *Peking Gazette*, had been in universal use among the Chinese for centuries, there is no recorded evidence of any attempt to publish a newspaper for the expression of public sentiment or opinion, or to furnish information enlarging the sphere of knowledge, until within the last half-century when, as we have already mentioned, a beginning was made by the publication of the *Chinese Daily Press*.

THE EARLIEST EUROPEAN NEWSPAPERS IN CHINA.

The earliest European newspapers issued in this part of the world were founded by Portuguese residents at Macao. In 1822 Macao possessed a weekly newspaper called *A Abelha da China*, and in 1824 another, the *Gazette de Macao*, made its appearance. How many newspapers Macao may have had before these were published we have not the means of ascertaining but it is not improbable, considering what an important centre of international commerce Macao was in the early part of the Nineteenth Century, that a newspaper was published there before 1822. It can certainly be said that since that date many have had their day in the Colony and ceased to be, and to-day the Colony does not possess even one.

The first English newspaper published in China was the *Canton Register* which made its appearance in 1827, and it is interesting to recall the fact that it owed its foundation largely to the interest taken in the enterprise by Messrs. James and Alexander Matheson, at that time connected with the firm of Magniac & Co. from whose ashes arose the Phoenix-like form of the princely house of Messrs. Jardine Matheson & Co. Mr. James Matheson, who is represented in the bibliography of the East by a book entitled "British Trade in China" is reputed to have been the first editor of the paper, though a frequent contributor to the paper in its infancy has in a book entitled "The Fankwei in China" cast considerable doubt on the statement and says he only knew as editor Mr. Wood, "son of the great tragedian" who combined with the editorial work the technical duties of compositor. However that may be, the fact is not disputed that the small hand-press on which the paper was printed was lent for the purpose by Mr. Alexander Matheson. This hand-press, by the way, was the second English press to be introduced into China. The first was introduced by the Honorable East India Company in 1814, and they brought out a printer to Canton at the same time. On this press was printed Morrison's dictionary of the Chinese language, his "Vocabulary of the Canton dialect" and his "Views of China." The press on which the *Canton Register* was printed was brought out from England in 1825. A writer in 1833 remarked that there were then only five English presses in China—two in Macao and three in Canton—but as the first two presses, according to this authority arrived in 1814 and 1825 and both were at Canton, it is to be assumed that the Macao newspapers which were issued in 1822 and 1824 were printed by methods allied to the Chinese. The *Canton Register* was published weekly for upwards of twenty years, a valuable contributor to the paper up to the time of his lamented death was Robert Morrison, the pioneer Protestant missionary and sinologue, the centenary of whose arrival is being celebrated this year, and whose valuable labours it is hoped to commemorate by an cenotaph at Canton. The *Register* ran without a rival—the *Chinese Repository* scarcely comes in that category—for about three years, when the third press arrived in Canton and the *Canton Courier* made its appearance. It died a premature death, but the spirit of opposition survived and in 1835 appeared the *Canton Press*. We ought not however, to pass over the *Chinese Repository* without a little further reference. It was a monthly publication and a very valuable one in its day. For twenty years it constituted a rich storehouse of information with regard to the history, geography, government and social life and customs not only of China but of the Asiatic countries generally.

The *Canton Press* followed the *Courier* to the limbo of unsuccessful enterprises, and thereafter came *The Friend of China*. Its publishing office was on "the 3rd site east of the Factory Creek" at Canton, but upon the cession of Hongkong to the British the *Friend of China* followed the bulk of its readers to the new Colony and continued its weekly publication here. In 1847 the weekly *China Mail* entered into rivalry with it as well as with the *Canton Register* and the *Hongkong Register*. The *Friend* has long since departed and neither of the *Registers* we believed lived long enough to record its demise.

THE BIRTH OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

By 1857 the Colony and its trade were developing at such a rate that the necessity or at least the usefulness of a daily newspaper began to be apparent; and October 1st of that year saw the starting of the *Daily Press*, which, as we have already mentioned enjoys the distinction of being the first, and therefore the oldest, daily newspaper published in the East. Poets dwell in the land in those days, and it is interesting to recall now the following modest little apostrophe which appeared in the first issue of the paper:—

Go *Daily Press* from this our solitude:

We cast thee on the waters: go thy ways;
And if, as we believe, thy vein be good.

The world shall find thee after many days.
To-day the world finds the *Daily Press*
justifying the prophecy by celebrating its

jubilee and doubting not that the world will still be able to find it "when a hundred years are gone."

Notwithstanding the evidences of growing prosperity in the colony in 1867, it will be seen from extracts printed in another column of to-day's issue that men were writing bitterly about the "pestiferous island of Hongkong" this "charnel house for troops and traders," and demanding its abandonment in favour of some more salubrious locality where the prospects of commercial development were considered brighter. Possibly the founder of the *Daily Press* was content to think that if the community were to move in a body to Chusan or any other more favoured spot, as they had moved from Canton, the *Daily Press* could move with it, and for that reason perhaps did not include the word Hongkong in the title. The name of the Colony was included in the title some years later when people had ceased to advocate abandonment and had begun to recognise what British energy and enterprise were already making of a position found to be so admirably situated from the commercial as well as the strategical point of view.

We smile to-day at the size of the little sheet which represents the first daily newspaper published in the East, but those unacquainted with the history of the newspaper press will be not a little amused to know that the pioneer London daily newspaper was of even smaller dimensions—very much smaller in fact, for it consisted of a single sheet of the size of half a sheet of foolscap with print on one side only, the other side being "a blank left for the convenience of sending it by the post." But the London *Daily Courant* made its debut one hundred and fifty years before the *Hongkong Daily Press*. There is, however, a curious resemblance between the first numbers of the two papers by reason of the fact that London in the early days of the Eighteenth Century was, as regards its communication with the world beyond, much in the same state of isolation as Hongkong was in 1867. The first London daily announced that it would (as its title showed) be published daily "being designed to give all material news as soon as every post arrives; and is confined to half the compass to save the public at least half the impertinences of the ordinary newspapers." Those who peruse the introductory article in the fac-simile of the first number of the *Daily Press* will note a similar declaration, except that the "impertinences of the ordinary newspapers" are implied rather than bluntly expressed. "Creative propensities," says the editorial, "we shall avoid, remedial suggestions eschew, and local abuses submit to. . . . We shall simply search for news, sift for intelligence, dig for facts etc." The temptation to rebel against local abuses, real and imaginary, and to suggest remedies proved, however, far too strong, and before it had been in existence a month, we find the *Daily Press* doing all that it had sworn not to do.

The price of the paper, it will be noticed, was fixed at 2½ per month, but the dollar then was worth 4s. 11d. At the present rate of exchange the charge of \$3 a month made for the *Daily Press* to-day is just one half the price in sterling at which it sold when it was first started. Many factors have of course contributed to this result, the chief being the growth in circulation and the increasing volume of advertising business as the Colony and neighbouring foreign settlements developed. In touching on this question of exchange we are reminded of the intimation at the bottom of column 2 on the front page of the first issue, viz. that "our quotations commencing from date will be given in a subsequent issue," and as the exchange and freight quotations of those "good old times" will possess an interest all their own to readers to-day we need make no excuse for reproducing them:—

EXCHANGE AND BULLION MARKET.

Blank and first class Paper on London at six months' sight, 4s. 11½d.

Private Bills at six months sight, 5s.

On India, Blank Bills at three days' sight, and Company's accepted, on Calcutta 22½, on Bombay 22s.

Sovereigns, \$4.25.

Gold, per teal

Ballarad, \$21.25.

Californian, \$19 and \$19.50.

Gold Leaf 100 touch, 22.65 and 22.80.

TONNAGE MARKET.

To ENGLAND—£4 4s. for Tea; £5 5s. for Silk.

NEW YORK—\$12 to \$16 per ton of 40 feet.

AUSTRALIA—£2 10s. per ton of 50 feet or 20 cwt.

Emigrants \$35 and \$37 gross.

SAN FRANCISCO—\$9 and \$10 per ton of 40 feet or 12 piculs. Emigrants \$28 to \$35 gross.

HAVANA—From Swatow or Macao, \$65 and \$70 for each coolie landed.

SIAM AND BACK TO HONGKONG OR MACAO—75 cents per picul for Rice, or £4 to Great Britain.

SHANGHAI—35 cents. per picul for Sugar, Rice and Copper Cash; \$5 and \$6 per ton of 40 feet for measurement goods.

OPIMUM.

	At Hongkong	At Macao.
New Patna	\$800	\$785 and \$790
Old Do	\$775	—
Benares	\$780	\$775 and 780
Malwa	\$100	\$940 nom.

FIFTY YEARS OF PROGRESS.

The progress made in the last fifty years is strikingly illustrated by a comparison of the list of Shipping in Hongkong Harbour on October 1st, 1857 with the Shipping in port to-day. The first number of the *Daily Press* contains a list of over one hundred and twenty ships then lying in the harbour, but not twenty of them had a capacity exceeding 1000 tons and the largest of them was a P. & O. steamer of 1251 tons. Steamers in those days were as rarely to be seen as the barque is to-day. In that list of over one hundred and twenty ships there are only five steamships, and of these three belonged to the P. & O. Company. There is a large canvas in the City Hall Library painted by the late Mr. Baptista, a pupil of Chenery, which, gives an interesting view of Hongkong Harbour in the days of the famous clippers.

THE OLD HONG.

Looking down the list of "consignees or agents," we may note how few of the famous old hongks still survive. They may now be counted on the fingers of one hand. We notice the P. and O. Company, Messrs. Jardine Matheson & Co., Siemssen & Co., D. Sassoon, & Co., and we may also add D. Lapraik (now Douglas, Lapraik & Co.). Gibb, Livingston & Co. were also in existence, but the firm's name does not appear among the consignees in the list to which we are referring. Besides these there are one or two firms, who though no longer established in Hongkong still flourish in other parts of China—Messrs. Holliday, Wise & Co. for example—but the great majority have had their day and ceased to be. Of the famous old American firm of Russell & Co. so frequently mentioned in the list Messrs. Hewin Tomes & Co. are successors the old firm of Turner & Co. ceased only a few years ago, the business being taken over by Messrs. Gibb, Livingston & Co.; and the firm of Pustau & Co. continued in business in Canton until quite recently. The firm name of Dent & Co. is still to be seen in the list of firms at Macao and Shanghai.

The advertisements in the first number of the *Daily Press* are no less interesting than the other features of the paper. The advertisements of Messrs. Wm. Pustau & Co., Agents of the Austrian Lloyd Steam Navigation indicate the communications then existing with Europe. There was no Suez Canal, passengers and their baggage were transported overland from Suez to Alexandria. Between Trieste and Alexandria the Austrian Lloyd ran steamers "corresponding with the monthly and bi-monthly mails from India." The Directors of the Austrian Lloyd Co. also undertook to forward "per submarine to London" or any other part of the Continent, telegraphic messages sent to them from China. A little further on in the first volume of the *Daily Press* we find other firm names still identified with the Colony's trade and commerce. Lane, Crawford & Co., for example, figure very prominently throughout the volume as auctioneers, in which line of business, by the way, there seems to have been plenty of competition in the infancy of the Colony. Among the auctioneers established here fifty years ago we note besides Lane, Crawford & Co., McEwen & Co., G. Duddell, Thos. Hunt & Co. and Y. J. Murrow. The latter was one of the founders of the *Daily Press* and the business remains the property of the surviving members of his family. The Queen's Road Dispensary, mentioned in one of the advertisements, was the business of Mr. A. S. Watson.

Before we leave the advertisements we may mention for the information of the ladies that

Paris fashions were not ignored in Hongkong in 1857. The number of ladies resident in the Colony was probably very small at that time, and the Millinery establishments—of which there were at least two—had to interest the men in order to make a living. Hence we read that "Mrs. Lemon has just received a fine assortment of Felt Hats and Paris Boots of all sizes; now open for inspection at her millinery rooms," but Mrs. Marsh had "just received a splendid assortment of French Flowers, Steel Spring Petticoats, Ribbons of all descriptions, French Merinos, de Laines, Colored Cambrics, Black and Colored Velvets, Plushes, Napes & Co.," while Mr. Marsh had received a consignment of "gentlemen's ready-made clothing" &c.

The exigencies of space oblige us to stop, and leave the reader to make his own further reflections on a perusal of the copy of the first number issued as a supplement to-day.

HONGKONG FIFTY YEARS AGO.

Mr. Wingrove Cooke, who came out as the *Times* correspondent to report the British Military operations which took place in China in 1857 and 1858, wrote:—

My earliest impression is that our facetious European friends who advise us to "go to Hongkong" have not an accurate knowledge of the spot. A gentleman who should go to Hongkong in the present state of affairs, although he may have his pocket full of dollars, is not unlikely to have to sleep upon the pavement of Queen's Street, and will be indebted to the protection of the Malay guard if his throat be not cut before the morning. It is a town of capital houses, but its powers of accommodation are not capable of indefinite expansion. The flight from Canton and other causes have filled it. General Garrett and his staff who might reasonably have anticipated some preparations for their reception, found it convenient to sleep on board the steamer and were glad to shelter themselves where they might. The General on the day after his arrival with great difficulty got a room at an inn and his suite were happy to avail themselves of the hospitality of the Hongkong Club—an establishment to which we cannot be too grateful; and if there is any gratitude in Pall Mall the military clubs should be open to every member when he visits London, in requital of good offices rendered in utmost need. . . . General Ashburnham will have to take up his quarters in a half-built storehouse and Lord Elgin will certainly be obliged to sleep in the harbour. For myself I think I ought to publicly return my thanks to Mr. Walker the agent of the Peninsular and Oriental, for it was by no common expenditure of time and interest that he obtained for me a single room at a price not much above what a lodging in Regent Street would cost in the London season. In other respects Hongkong is a place where a turkey and a ham costs £5 and where a dollar, whose par value is 4s. 2½, costs 5s. in English bills or gold. It has some other peculiarities which strike a newcomer. If you dine with a merchant here, you notice that your host takes leave of you at his outer door; he has a Malay soldier standing sentinel in the hall with a loaded musket. He explains to you that the house is so arranged that all these long-tailed domestics who waited at dinner are or can be shut off from that part of the house in which the Europeans sleep. If your host should accompany you a few steps towards your own domicile he is careful to buckle his revolver round his waist—and say it is nine o'clock—he is uncomfortable if he goes ten paces without being challenged by an armed patrol.

Another writer of a little later date expressed his views of the Colony in the following terms:

A fatal and most costly mistake was made by those who managed the war and the treaty, in retaining the wretched, pestiferous island of Hongkong, and giving up the beautiful and salubrious island of Chusan.

Hongkong, which already cost us some millions of dollars and many hundreds of valuable lives, is an unproductive, mountainous, lumpy island, only eight miles long, and, on an average, three miles broad. It is separated from the mainland of China only by a very

narrow strait, in no part more than three miles, and at one point scarcely one mile in breadth. This proximity allows the pirates and other plunderers of the main to cross over to the isle by night, and there commit their depredations and atrocities. As there was no level space elsewhere, the English have built their town of Victoria along the seabeach. With the new Chinese houses included, the town straggles to the length of 3 miles; breadth or depth it has none, being backed by rugged precipices and mountains which entirely shut it out from the healthy breezes of the ocean. Hongkong cannot be said to possess any vegetation at all; a few goats with difficulty find support. The rocks, which constitute the whole soil, are composed of rotten decomposing granite, which, as is well known (and was well known long before our men in authority took it as a settlement), is as productive of gases and malaria as any bad jungle in India. Scarcely a single man in our service, whether European, Indian, Malay, or Macao Portuguese, has passed any time on the island without suffering most severely in health. The Chinese have always regarded the place as fatal to human life, and they will not live there beyond a certain season. The mortality of our troops has been as one in three and a half. The diseases are endemic fevers, diarrhoeas, dysentery and pulmonary complaints. The Sapoys, having less stamina, suffer much more than the English soldiers. Our officers have been a obnoxious to disease as the common men. Rabberies were, and we believe still are, of nightly occurrence. "It is very natural," says Dr. Gutzlaff, "that depraved, idle, wicked characters from the adjacent main, should flock to the Colony. The islanders themselves, nearly all fishermen, are pirates when the opportunity presents. They are a roving set of beings, floating on the wide face of the ocean with their families, and committing depredations when ever it can be done with impunity. The stone-outlets have been working here for many years before our arrival: the majority of these men are unprincipled, they cannot be considered as domesticated among us, and are in the habit of going and coming according to the state of their trade. The most numerous class who, since our arrival, have fixed themselves on the island, are from Whampoa; many of them are of the very worst character, and are ready to commit any atrocity." Under the very shadow of the British flag these fellows hold their nocturnal clubs and secret societies. The members of these societies bind themselves to stand by one another, and afford mutual protection. Thus the other Chinese are afraid of denouncing their crimes or informing against them. The proclamations of the governor seem to have had no effect in dissolving or even checking these anti-social combinations.

It is true that Hongkong is conveniently near to Canton; but since the opening of Amoy, Ningpo, and the other ports, Canton ought not to be considered as the emporium. It is not a place of production; it is not so much as a shipping-place; the teas, the silks, and all the commodities we were accustomed to purchase at Canton (because we were not then allowed to purchase elsewhere), are all brought at a very heavy expense of carriage from great distances. Nor is Canton in any way the best avenue through which to introduce Christian conversion or European civilisation; for the population is perverse, presumptuous, turbulent, and altogether the most indocile and the worst people in China.

At a committee meeting of the Kobe Golf Club held on Sept. 19th it was decided to hold the Amateur Championship of Japan on the 20th October. The Yokohama Golf Club have been communicated with, and have agreed to subscribe half the cost of the Cup, which is estimated at ¥200. Conditions:—36 holes, medal play. Entrance fee ¥3. Green fees will not be charged to competitors. The cup to be retained by the winner for one year, but not to be taken out of Japan. This year the championship will be played over the Kikkosan course; next year in Yokohama; and the Club over whose links the competition is played will present the winner with a replica of the Cup. The competition is open to any amateur being a member of any recognised golf club.

THE EVOLUTION OF HONGKONG.

[Written for the Daily Press.]

As a Colony Hongkong had its natal day on the 26th of January, 1841, when the Union Jack was officially raised on the spur forming the western boundary of Taipingshan, as well as on the Peak. This was in accordance with a circular issued six days previously by Capt. Charles Elliott, Her Majesty's Plenipotentiary, informing all British subjects that arrangements had been made between him and the Imperial Chinese Commissioner Kishan that the Island and Harbour were ceded to the British Crown, but that all just charges and duties to the Empire upon the commerce carried on there would be paid as if the trade were conducted at Whampoa.

The hoisting of the flag was, however, only the penultimate act of a long series of events, which may be said to have commenced as long ago as the year 1635, when the ship *London* despatched by the East India Company arrived in the month of July at Macao. Prior to this the Company had traded with Japan, where on the island of Hirado near the Goto Islands it had established a factory. It had also made attempts to open a trade at Amoy, but had met with but little success. The time was not propitious; at home the country was in the throes of revolution, and in China the Ming dynasty was falling, the present Manchurian rulers were rapidly consolidating their power, and the entire coast was in a state of turmoil.

Up to this time the Portuguese had been the only European nation who had any established trade with China. In 1622 the Dutch had attempted to wrest from them the monopoly of the trade and had attacked the Portuguese settlement at Macao, but had been repulsed. The Dutch then attempted to found a station of their own in Taiwan in Formosa, and for a little time were successful; but intrigues and counsels, and want of support from headquarters in Batavia, as well as the growing strength of the pirate Koxinga, afterwards taken into the service of the new Manchu Dynasty, in the end had their effect in crushing out the Dutch. An agreement had been meanwhile come to between the English and Dutch to trade in common, but the Dutch, it was complained, did not fairly carry out their share, and this induced the English to act altogether on their own account. At first an effort was made to work with the Portuguese, and fix the headquarters of the trade at Macao. Partly from jealousy of the new comers whom they esteemed little better than interlopers, and partly because the authorities at Macao feared to incur the displeasure of their Chinese hosts, the Captain and Supercargo found their visit made unpleasant, and Captain Weddell determined to take his ship up to Canton. When he arrived at the Bogue his further progress was forbidden, and fire opened on the *London*. Probably well informed as to the reason, which seems to have been the unauthorised action of the lower officials, Captain Weddell boldly bombarded and silenced the forts and went up to the anchorage at Whampoa where the ship anchored. The consequence of his action was that he received an invitation to an audience with the Viceroy, who received him with honour, and in a friendly spirit; and agreed to the English ships being permitted to trade on the same terms as the Portuguese. There has always existed an inclination to look upon Captain Weddell's action as little better than that of a free-booter, and the Viceroy's attitude as dictated by fear. There is, however, no real reason to suspect the Viceroy as other than sincere.

In the first place the Manchu authority had not yet been established at Canton, and in the next there is little reason to doubt that the resistance at the Bogue had really been brought about by Portuguese intrigue acting on the military commander. The Viceroy was apparently only too pleased to utilise the Englishman as a counterpoise to Portuguese pretensions. Exclusion of the Foreigner had never been raised to a principle of politics under the Ming.

In 1622 we find the Company consulting the head of its Presidency, then temporarily stationed at Bantam, regarding the proposed opening of its trade:—"Three things," is the

reply, "are more especially made known unto the world. One is, the abundant trade it affordeth. The second is, that they admit no stranger into their country. The third is, that trade is as life unto the vulgar, which in remote parts they will seek and accommodate with hazard of all they have."

"In these three considerations it is easily conceived how and where intercourse with that nation is to be expected; for it requireth no more care than to plant in some convenient place whither they may come, and then to give them knowledge that you are planted."

From the beginning the idea of a settlement, where trading could be carried on without molestation with the mainland of China had been familiar to the Company, but the trouble was where to find it. The Dutch had for many years sought permission to trade directly along the coast, but disappointed with their want of success had settled down on Formosa;—"a place not inconvenient in respect of nearness, but a barren haven, an open road, and inconvenient for shipping." Yet, it goes on to say, "should we shew ourselves to trade there with the Dutch, it should be guarded with those difficulties and infinite charges, as if it were a silver mine."

It was to cut the gordian knot that Captain Weddell made his bold attempt to enter into relation with the high officials direct; commercially the visit was not a success owing largely it would seem to the obstacles placed in the way by the Portuguese, who refused to permit the supercargoes to live on shore, and the Company ever timid about entering on new enterprises did not for some time repeat the experiment. But meanwhile the entire aspect of affairs was changed. "Although the Tartar dynasty was confirmed on the throne in 1640, a series of years elapsed before tranquillity was restored to the empire. These events, combined with the establishment of Courteen's association, originally promoted and conducted by Captain Weddell in 1635, accompanied by hostile proceedings at Canton, in which they were opposed by the Dutch, who likewise opposed

Abruptly these trade at the moment when the power of that nation had been greatly reduced in the East, made it impossible to prosecute with any prospect of success the trade either with Canton, or China generally."

Then, of course, followed the civil war at home, which reduced to the lowest the finances of the Company, and rendered it powerless to undertake any new schemes. A letter from one of the Company's agents, still at Bantam, is interesting from the light it throws on the conditions of the period. "The experiment which you desire we should make with one of our small vessels for trade into China, we are certainly informed by those who know the present state and condition of that country very well, cannot be undertaken without the inevitable loss both of ships, men, and goods; for as the Tartars overrun and waste all the inland country, without settling any government in the places which they overcome, so some of their great men in China, with a mighty fleet at sea of upwards of 1000 sail of great ships (as is confidently reported), rob and spoil all the sea coasts, and whatsoever vessels they can meet with; and how one of our feeble vessels would be able to defend themselves against such forces is easy to be supposed. As for the Portuguese in Macao, they are little better than mere rebels against their viceroy in Goa, having lately murdered their captain-general sent thither to them and Macao itself so distracted amongst themselves, that they are daily spilling one another's blood. But put the case, all these things were otherwise, we must needs say we are in a very poor condition is seek out new discoveries while you will not allow us factors, shipping or sailors, scarce half sufficient to maintain the trade already you have on foot; and therefore the Dutch but laugh at us, to see us meddle in new undertakings being hardly able to support the old."

The excitement and suppressed indignation under which the writer was evidently labouring is a sufficient explanation of the absence of grammar; but this unvarnished record gives us never the less a vivid idea of the conditions under which our trade with China had its beginnings, and doubtless in the long run the memory of the helpless condition of the English Company had its influence in increasing the haughty

bearing of the Canton authorities. Better times, however, were coming, and we find the Protector Cromwell in 1654 entering into a treaty with John IV of Portugal, giving on the part of each nation to the other free access to all its ports in the East, but owing to the high-handed action of the Home Government in making the Company disgorge as a forced loan £50,000 received as an indemnity from the Dutch, and a delay in renewing its charter, the Company was unable for the time to take advantage of the opening.

Still anxious to carry out the project of having a settlement of its own from which to carry on trade with China, the Company about this period assayed to open intercourse with Peking, but met with even worse indignities than at Canton. In 1689 Amoy, with which some trade still survived under the old regime, submitted to the new dynasty and the Manchus distrusting their Chinese subjects, and themselves despising trade, made exclusion their fundamental policy towards foreign nations, while at home they did their best to isolate each of the provinces from its neighbours. The old industries of the nation were discouraged, except so far as they administered to the luxuries of the conquerors, the roads permitted to fall into disrepair, and the mines closed. For convenience sake foreign trade was indeed, to be permitted at Canton, that being the extreme southerly port of the Empire, but it was to be distinctly impressed on the foreigner that it existed only on sufferance, and in no way for his benefit. Above all things the Emperor at Peking was not to be disturbed by any references, and to effectually carry this out, he handed over the superintendence of the whole to a special commissioner quite independent of the provincial authorities, who was allowed his own separate staff, and was responsible to the Emperor direct.

We with our accumulated experience can see that such an arrangement could not be permanent, but this was by no means equally evident at the time; and in any case the conduct of the English and Dutch Companies at that time of the Portuguese adventures and deficiencies in the China seas, was not such as to induce the officials who represented the Chinese Emperor to place any higher estimate on the Powers that lay behind than on the half civilised races who lay around, and whom they had conquered almost without a struggle. We have perhaps been more diffuse in our description of the early condition of our intercourse with China than the occasion would seem to warrant. On the other hand the causes that brought about modern conditions have been long continued, and deep-seated; and to rightly understand the conduct of both parties, native and foreign, during the three centuries of what may be called incubation some notice must be taken of anterior events.

With the renewal under the Great Seal by the Protector Cromwell of the charter of the East India Company, a little more life seems to have been infused into the languishing trade. At this period the Company's headquarters for its Far Eastern trade was fixed at Bantam in Java close to the Straits of Sunda, where both English and Dutch Companies had factories. In August, 1682, the Dutch captured Bantam, and the Company had perforce to transfer its headquarters to Surat in India. This was by no means so favourable a site on account of the enormous distance, and the absence of any better means of communication than was afforded by sailing vessels; and one of the consequences was that from that period there was an absence of "touch" between the Council at Surat and the Committee of Supercargoes in China.

In part this was endeavoured to be remedied by the employment in the trade of the Company's own ships instead of the "country" ships engaged at high freights at Bantam; but the Council at Surat conceiving that the sole reason of their intercourse with China was trade, and unable to comprehend the calm indifference, with which, up to at least the end of the 17th century, the warlike Manchus regarded trade and traders, instructed their supercargoes to submit to any indignity and exaction rather than by protestations endanger the stoppage of the trade. Following to its legitimate conclusion this line of argument it refused to consider, or even listen to, the well founded remonstrances of those on the spot, which it affected to look upon as an indication of

a warlike spirit. Of course, there was some excuse for the Company desiring above all things not to be involved in political meshes, which would sooner or later necessitate the employment of force. This had already resulted in their enforced assumption of political rule in India, a state of affairs it recognised could not be with any prospect of success be repeated in China, where the central power was strong.

The Committee at Canton, with the experience gained on the spot, saw that a tame submission to all the whims of the individual officials with whom they had to come in contact could only result in exciting contempt, and represented this to the Court, which in its self-inspired wisdom rejected the statement as impertinent. Up to the commencement of the eighteenth century the Hoppo in person used to visit the ships on their arrivals and make arrangements for their discharge, but about this time an attempt was made to create a monopoly in favour of one man who was to be called the Emperor's merchant: it turned out that the Emperor's merchant was a man of straw, and wholly unable to provide the necessary funds, whereupon on a complaint to the Chi-fu the man was displaced, but not until he had exacted a squeeze of some six thousand taels per ship. The experiment was not forgotten by the officials, and from that time the business was diverted to merchants selected by the officials, who alone were permitted to deal in foreign goods; and this practice finally grew into the hateful Hong System. Gradually all intercourse with the authorities direct was permitted to lapse, and the Hong Merchants became the sole medium of communication between the Company's factors and the Chinese Government.

The usual course of proceeding at this time on the arrival of the Company's ships in China waters was for the Supercargoes to proceed to Macao to ascertain how affairs stood at Canton, if they found they were satisfactory, the ships were then to be sent to the Bogue, where some of the Hoppo's officers came on board; whereupon the Supercargoes announced their intention of calling upon that officer, who as a rule admitted them willingly to a personal interview. After the usual compliments a series of bargainers went on, and regular articles were proposed and agreed to on both sides. The trade was to be free with whomsoever they chose. They were to be at liberty to employ what servants they liked. Each side was to punish its own people in accordance with well custom established. There were to be no embargoes put on the purchase of stores. Goods not sold were not to be charged with duty. Their boats with an officer on board and flying the flag were not to be molested, and no personal searches were to be made. The Hoppo would protect them against any attacks from the people and from illegal exactions on the part of the other Mandarins, who were not to be permitted to meddle with the ships or traders. These stipulations were formally agreed to each season, and the ships were then permitted to go on with their trading.

It will thus be seen that as the Manchu rule continued in its primitive state of efficiency, except that the agreement had to be made anew each season, there was little to complain of. The trouble commenced with the accession of the dark and suspicious, yet withal weak prince Yungcheng, the author of the celebrated "Amplification" of the Sacred Edict, with the reactionary precepts. Advantage had been taken of the accidental shooting of a boy by a petty officer of one of the ships to levy a preposterous squeeze, and this having been weakly paid, the next encroachment was to send a petty official on board to take stock of the guns, small arms, and powder. The affair was simply a "try on"; the officer came, looked at a few guns laid out on deck, and the lost ground was never to be recovered.

From that time the intercourse was of the most unsatisfactory nature; in 1723 the charges having been arbitrarily raised to ten per cent. the Supercargoes remonstrated, and determined as under the old regime they had been authorised, to see the T'sungta whom by a strange alliteration the record calls the Isoutock. They were ordered out of their chairs at the city gates, and with difficulty made their way to the Yamen; here they were told they could not be admitted as

they did not have their linguist. They persevered, and after waiting a considerable time saw the great man, who directed them to hand their petition to his secretary, and then without perusing it, told them they should deal with the responsible merchants and pay their dues. This seems to have been the last interview, for the next time they made the attempt only the secretary appeared who roundly rated them, and told them that in future they must address themselves to the merchants. On their mildly remonstrating, and suggesting that the abuses to which they were asked to submit might oblige the Company to abandon their trade with Canton, he told them plainly "they might go if they pleased; other ships would come," and called their complaint "troubling him with a trifling affair."

[To be continued.]

MODERN EDUCATION IN CHINA.

[Written for the Daily Press.]

(Continued from last week.)

BUILDINGS AND EQUIPMENT.

One is struck at once with the superiority of the new school buildings of China over those of Japan. There are very few brick school buildings in Japan outside the Universities. In China not only the wealth of the country but the solidity of the national character finds expression in the substantial character of its school buildings. They are all of brick. Many of them are really imposing structures. One is led to hope that this external appearance is indicative of the character of the work that is to be done in them. The school rooms are large, airy, and well lighted. All the schools have maps, charts, and blackboards, and all the higher grades have some physical and chemical apparatus, and a number of them have manikins and even artificial skeletons for teaching anatomy and physiology. The great defect one observes is the too general absence or inadequacy of the grounds for recreation and drill purposes in connection with school buildings.

PASSING OF THE EXAMINATION HALLS.

Simultaneously with the abolition of the Examination system the halls in which those examinations had been held became useless.

The fact that these are being torn down and the grounds devoted to other uses is a pledge of China's bona fide committal to the modern idea of education. In Canton the grounds are being occupied by the new buildings of the higher Normal school. The Peking grounds will accommodate the military College. In Nanking it is proposed to convert the old examination grounds into a market place, and apply the income from rental of stalls towards the running expenses of the new University. It is likely that before another decade the last vestige of this most significant relic of the old order will have disappeared entirely and forever. One's regret at the passing away of the old landmarks is decidedly relieved by the satisfaction one feels in the certainty with which it points towards a new and better state of being for the millions of China.

USE OF CHINESE AND ENGLISH IN SCHOOLS.

Both the Japanese and Chinese student is seriously handicapped in securing an education by the difficulty of acquiring a mastery of the Chinese ideographs used by both peoples. Mr. Pieters estimates that the Japanese graduate is, by reason of this disadvantage, at least two or three years in arrears of the western student in his general knowledge of literature, history and the sciences. Both governments appreciate this difficulty, at least to some extent. In Peking a year or so ago a system of phonetic writing of Chinese was devised and received official sanction. Schools were started to teach the new method of writing. But the interest in this particular system was not sustained, and it appears to be doomed to failure. But unquestionably the question of a written representation of the language will have to be very seriously considered by the authorities if the students of China are to compete on an even footing with those of the rest of the world in the fields of modern learning.

The regulations require the study of foreign languages in all schools above the elementary grade. This is done in the interests of the diplomatic service, of acquisition of science, and

of securing capable translators of western books. As a matter of fact English is taught in most, if not all, of these more advanced schools.

"A thorough knowledge of English Grammar, ability to speak and understand colloquial English, and fair ability in English composition," is put down as one of the requirements for admission to the Pei-Yang University, Tientsin. In the Imperial University, Peking, and in the Shansi University large attention is devoted to the teaching of English both in the preparatory and in the advanced department.

INDUSTRIAL AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION.

Another most convincing sign that we are living in a new China is the way in which the Chinese Government is endeavouring to fit the working population for intelligent government and efficient production and service. Technical and Industrial schools are being started, influenced no doubt in large measure by the interest and success of the Japanese government in helping its farmers and artisans to a knowledge of the best tools and methods to be used in their various callings. This matter has most important and direct bearing on the development of national wealth and the well-being and contentment of the people. One welcomes the advent of the new Industrial Institutes, like those in Tientsin and Canton, where silk and cotton weaving, dyeing, drawing, embroidery, and the manufacture of furniture, pottery, looms, and matches are taught. In the Tientsin Institute there is a short course of six months for weavers. There is a longer course in this and the other subjects of from one to two years, for satisfactory students. The graduates are prepared to become foremen and superintendents of similar institutes elsewhere. The mother institute undertakes to guarantee their graduates, and to transmit a fixed portion of their salaries to their families. These schools and those for agriculture, commerce, navigation, and fisheries, may reasonably be expected to work a needed revolution within the next generation in the efficiency and comfort of the wage-earners and producers of China.

On the whole we may conclude that while there are many crudities and deficiencies in the present system of modern education in China, she is definitely and finally committed to the change, and that there are many indications of real and substantial progress in the direction of an education that is true and that will increase the wealth, efficiency, and well-being of the people. For testing the full benefits of the changes that have been made a generation is not too long to wait, or until the present pupils in the schools have become the workers, leaders, and rulers of the country. Meanwhile we of the West have confidence that untold good will result.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on Oct. 1st at the Board Room. The Hon. Dr. J. M. Atkinson (president) presided, and there were also present Hon. Mr. W. Chatham, C.M.G. (Vice-President), Hon. Mr. A. W. Brewin (Registrar-General), Lieut.-Col. Reid, R.A.M.C., Hon. Mr. E. A. Hewett, Mr. A. Shelton Hooper, Mr. Lau Chu-pak, Mr. Fung Wa-chun and Mr. G. A. Woodcock, secretary.

QUESTIONS.

Mr. A. Shelton Hooper, pursuant to notice, asked the following questions, to which the President made the attached replies:

(a) How many notices to abate nuisances under Part III of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance have been issued by the Sanitary Department or Sanitary Board Office on the reports of Sanitary Inspectors since the Ordinance came into force.

A—14,913. These notices relate to such sanitary matters as brokeng round surfaces, obstructed yards, smoke nuisances arising from defective flues, rooms inadequately lit, illegal cubicles, absence of yards and house drainage works.

(b) Whether any, and if so, how many of them have been before the Building Authority.

A—A copy of every notice issued is forwarded to the Building Authority.

(c) Whether any of these notices emanating from the Sanitary Department were issued by the direct instigation of the Building Authority or any officer in the office of the Building Authority.

A—Yes.

(d) Whether any part of the salaries of the Sanitary Board or Sanitary Department officials who have done any of the above work mentioned in question No. 1 is charged to the Building Authority's Department or charged wholly to the Sanitary Department.

A—Wholly to the Sanitary Department.

Mr. HOOPER said there were two things arising out of the answers. He would like to know if the notices reached the Building Authority, Mr. Chatham, personally.

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS replied in the negative, but added that before a case went out for prosecution he saw it.

Mr. HOOPER referred also to the reply to Question 3 and elicited the information that it was a very small proportion of the 14,000 notices issued that were instigated by the Building Authority.

REPORTS FOR HIS EXCELLENCY.

A letter was received from Government requesting that copies of the report of the Medical Officer of Health be sent with recommendations from the provisions of Ordinance 1 of 1903.

Mr. A. S. Hooper minuted—I think it is quite right for H.E. the Governor to have before him the views of the M. O. H. before coming to a decision, but these views should be accompanied by the views of members of the Board who often are able to put a different complexion upon the case. The Board's decision ought not to be governed solely by the hygienic aspect of each case but in addition, by those general lines of policy, expediency and equity which the interests of the community clearly necessitate, and be taken into consideration as shown by the discretionary powers vested by the Legislature in the Board.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT wrote that His Excellency should be provided with a list showing how members voted in such cases, as the question went to a division.

Mr. LAU CHU-PAK endorsed Mr. Hooper's remarks.

The PRESIDENT did not see how views of members could be sent to His Excellency, as they had no Hansard reporter.

Mr. HOOPER said he was quite aware the Board had no regular Hansard, but he believed the *Daily Press* report of the proceedings of the Sanitary Board was filed. He also understood that if a member dissented from a certain proposition his dissent was recorded, and he could state briefly in writing the ground of his dissent. In such cases if a member dissented from a proposition his views should accompany the recommendations of the M. O. H. sent to His Excellency.

The PRESIDENT said that was frequently done. It was only for a member to express the wish to have that done.

ANNUAL LIMEWASHING AND CLEANSING.

Dr. MACFARLANE, the Assistant Medical Officer of Health, wrote as follows regarding the annual limewashing and cleansing of Kowloon city and Shamsui:—Kowloon City and Shamsui have now been limewashed once a year for the last three years. I recommend that the annual limewashing start about October 15th this year, as last year it was not finished in time for Chinese new year, and there was considerable trouble in getting the remainder finished. Plague was very bad in Kowloon City early this year, and was undoubtedly a focus from which plague spread into Kowloon proper. In view of the impossibility of putting Kowloon City into a proper sanitary condition at present, thorough limewashing and cleansing seems to me to be the least that can be done.

Mr. LAU CHU-PAK minuted—It appears that the Assistant Medical Officer of Health looks upon limewashing as a plague preventive.

The REGISTRAR-GENERAL—I should like to see former papers.

OVERCROWDING AT TAI HANG.

QUAINT PETITION.

Returns having been submitted to the Board showing that overcrowding existed at Tai Hang village, the inhabitants presented a petition craving exemption from the regulations limiting the number of inmates per house. The petition read:

"The petition of the inhabitants of Tai Hang village praying that the number of inmates in a house may not be limited.

"The petitioners used to live in matcheds at So Kon Po and Causeway Bay, but the Govern-

ment granted them sites in Tai Hang village gave them plans and also stone and earth wherewith to build themselves houses. These houses were passed by the Director of Public Works and the petitioners have since then lived there in peace, always filled with gratitude towards the Government.

"Recently some painters came and painted on the walls of the houses the number of inmates allowed by the Government in each house. But as the petitioners are only poor farmers and labourers, it will be hard on those, whose families exceed the limited number by one or two members, to have to rent another house for their accommodation. Moreover, Tai Hang is a country village and is outside the boundary of the city. The petitioners therefore pray the Hon. Registrar General to show special favour to the poor inhabitants by exempting Tai Hang from the regulation of limiting the number of inmates and they will be forever grateful."

The petition was signed by 39 inhabitants.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT minuted—It would be preposterous to enforce the full regulations in such a village.

Mr. LAU CHU-PAK—In the case of the outlying villages I think the law should not be enforced so strictly.

Hon. REGISTRAR-GENERAL—The overcrowding does not seem to be bad except in the case of a very few houses. The standard in an open village of two storeyed houses need not be so high as in a town of four storeyed houses.

The PRESIDENT moved that no action be taken for six months, except in cases of houses where double the number of inmates allowed was found.

A BELATED OPINION.

Mr. HOOPER asked if the opinion of the Attorney-General asked for several months ago had been given yet. There were several cases awaiting decision.

The PRESIDENT gave an answer in the negative, but undertook to inquire about the matter.

MORTALITY STATISTICS.

At a death rate per 100 per annum the mortality statistics of the whole Colony for the week ended August 24th were 22.2; and for the following week 21.1, as against 18.5 for the corresponding week last year.

LIMEWASHING.

The report of the inspector in charge of this work showed that for the fortnight ending September 10th, 2,083 houses were limewashed in the Eastern and 41 in the Central District.

SUPREME COURT.

MONDAY, 30TH SEPTEMBER.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE (ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE).

LEARNING THE ENGLISH CUSTOM.

In the case of Remigio Perez against H. Barbey for \$65.20, the claim was for one month's rent and proportionate part of taxes due by defendant in respect of the second floor of the house No. 2 Glenealy Road. Mr. E. J. Grist conducted the case for the plaintiff. Defendant was not in court when the case was called, but he appeared a few minutes later accompanied by a gentleman who was understood to be his interpreter, defendant being a Frenchman who said he could not speak English.

The interpreter explained that he was not the original interpreter who had failed defendant at the last moment, and he only attended the court to make that statement on behalf of Mr. Barbey.

His Lordship—Is he going to speak English to-day?

A reply in the negative was returned and the gentleman in question was persuaded to act as interpreter for the defendant.

Mr. Grist then stated the case for the plaintiff. The claim was for rent for the month of July or alternately for the month of August. Defendant occupied part of the house for the two months mentioned, but had only paid for one month.

His Lordship—Oh it is paid in advance. This receipt produced by the defendant is dated 31st July and is for the month of August. I thought it was for July.

Defendant, when asked what he had to say, denied that he owed the money and said that according to French custom the last receipt was all that he required to produce.

His Lordship—Tell him he must do it according to the English custom.

Mr. Grist—I take it he alleges he has paid the money.

His Lordship—Ask him if he has paid for July.

Defendant replied in the affirmative.

His Lordship—When?

Interpreter—He does not remember the date.

Mr. Grist stated that the two receipts were typed by plaintiff on one piece of paper and they were handed to his wife for her to collect the money. She handed the wrong receipt to defendant who only paid for one month.

Plaintiff and his wife in the witness box supported the statement of Mr. Grist, and defendant on oath declared that he did not owe the money.

His Lordship—I am perfectly certain the lady gave him the wrong receipt. Judgment will be for plaintiff with costs. If defendant is speaking the truth he will have to pay twice.

Wednesday, 2nd October.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE (ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE).

A COMPLICATED CASE.

Chan Tung Yeuk sued Li Pak, alias Ii Ki Tong and the Yik Lung Bank for \$1,000 being money deposited with the defendants by the plaintiff. Mr. E. J. Grist appeared for the plaintiff and Mr. G. K. Ball Brutton for Li Pak. There was a second action by Lau Chu Pin against the same defendants for \$271.21 in which Mr. R. F. C. Master acted for the plaintiff.

His Honour remarked that he had refused an order to issue a writ against Li Pak as a partner because he had already decided about a dozen actions in which he had held that he was a partner and Li Pak had not appealed although he had had plenty of time in which to do so. Therefore he was not going to hear those actions. The proper way was to appeal against the judgment. There was one point which seemed peculiar. That was that the solicitors for the plaintiffs after obtaining a judgment against him applied afterwards to have it set aside.

Mr. Brutton explained that was because the plaintiffs had wrongfully obtained judgment and they wished to right matters.

Judgment in both cases was given against the bank.

Thursday, October 3rd.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE (ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE).

A CROSS ACTION.

Wong Kam Po proceeded against the Kwong Cheung Loong firm, of 150 Portland Street, Mongkok for \$173.50, \$73.50 being for damage done to the steam launch "Gertie" and \$100 for loss sustained by the plaintiff by reason of the said damage. The Kwong Cheung firm counter-claimed for \$241.72 for work and materials supplied to the "Gertie." Mr. Dixon of Messrs. Hastings and Hastings, appeared for the Kwong Cheung Loong and Mr. Otto Kong Sing for Wong Kam Po.

Mr. Dixon stated that in 1905 defendant had a number of parts of machinery which were suitable for making an engine for a steam launch. He took the pieces to the plaintiff's shop and asked that they be turned down, and \$50 was agreed to as the price for this work. At the end of 1906 he bought the hull of a steam launch and asked plaintiffs to fit the parts and supply new parts so as to complete an engine for a steam launch. No price was agreed to as it was difficult to say exactly what was required. Plaintiff proceeded with

the work and fitted the engine to the launch. The defendant paid \$70 and \$214.72 was still due. With regard to the counterclaim it included an amount for changing steel tubes for the boiler. That must be a mistake as his clients never had anything to do with a boiler and never had it on their premises.

His Lordship gave judgment for the Kwong Cheung Loong firm in one action for \$137.65 and against the firm in the other for \$123.50.

ADSETTS.

AGAIN REMANDED.

There was a greater attendance of Europeans at the Police Court on September 30th than has been the case for some considerable time, and long before the Magistrate took his seat all the available sitting accommodation was occupied; in fact, had the public not been requested to go to the rear of the Court there would have been no seats for solicitors or reporters. All appeared anxious to see the prisoner, and it was not long before he walked with a firm step into the dock, and stood quietly in a corner, apparently unconscious of the number of eyes which gazed upon him. He entered the Court without collar or tie, but these were handed to him by Detective-Sergeant Sullivan and he put them on, taking his stand in the centre of the dock as Mr. C. D. Melbourne took his seat on the bench.

Mr. Morrell (Crown Solicitor) informed his Worship that Mr. R. Harding had been assigned a brief by the Government for the defence, subject to his costs being agreed. He did not know whether such costs had been agreed, and suggested a short adjournment.

Mr. Harding—I would like a short adjournment, your Worship.

His Worship—Will you be ready to go on to-morrow?

Mr. Morrell—Yes, your Worship.

His Worship—I'm sorry you didn't let me know before, Mr. Harding, because we have wasted a whole afternoon.

Mr. Morrell—I did not know a solicitor had been engaged for the defence.

His Worship—The case is remanded.

There was another exceptionally large attendance of Europeans at the Magistrate's on October 1st, when William Hall Adsetts was indicted on the charge of murdering Gertrude Dayton on August 4th. The trial came on before Mr. C. D. Melbourne, who had with him on the bench Mr. Amos P. Wilder, the American Consul-General.

Mr. G. E. Morrell (Crown Solicitor) prosecuted, and Mr. R. Harding appeared for the accused.

Mr. Morrell, in opening, said the accused stood charged with the wilful murder of one, Gertrude Dayton, on the 4th August, at the Hongkong Hotel. The murder took place under the most revolting and cold-blooded circumstances. The body was found packed in a saratoga trunk on the s.s. *Monteagle* in the harbour on August 7th. The story for the prosecution would show the movements of the accused from the time he left Manila on or about the 1st of August, until the time he left this Colony on August 5th. The victim of the murder was a woman named Gertrude Dayton, who belonged to the unfortunate class in Manila. It appeared that the accused made her acquaintance some months previous to the crime, and was acquainted with her for at least two months in Manila. On July 31st or August 1st, the accused left Manila in company with Gertrude Dayton by the s.s. *Eastern*, bound for this Colony. The *Eastern* arrived here on August 3rd, and was met by the Hongkong Hotel launch with the Hotel runner on board; and he would give evidence that amongst others he brought off from the *Eastern* were two passengers travelling under the names of Mr. & Mrs. W. H. Jones. He took them in his launch to the Praya, and from the Praya to the Hongkong Hotel, and there they registered and were given a room—room No. 184. They apparently went up to the room, and nothing extraordinary happened then. They dined at the hotel, and afterwards went away to a brothel at 52, Hollywood Road, which was commonly known as No. 12. They were there for some considerable time, and the woman ordered nine bottles of wine while she was in

the house, and those nine bottles of wine were drunk by the mistress of the brothel, the accused and Gertrude Dayton, the victim. Mr. Morrell would prove that although they ordered nine bottles they did not absolutely drink nine, but nine half glasses each. The custom in these houses was that a bottle was ordered and glasses provided for as many people as were in the room, which in this instance was three. The wine was then tipped into the glasses, but as it was fizzing the while they only half filled. The accused and Gertrude Dayton were in this house till about midnight, and during this time they had the nine bottles of wine, which as stated amounted in all to about nine half glasses to each person. The mistress of the house stated that the woman was the worse for liquor, but the man was not. The woman introduced the man with her as Jones, the name under which he registered in the hotel, and tried to borrow money in the house on some Post Office Orders which would be produced before the Court. There were fourteen orders of \$100 gold each. The man was carrying them at the time, and the woman asked him to produce them to the mistress of the brothel. The man produced them and handed them to the woman, who counted them over on her lap. They did not, however, succeed in raising any money on them. Then they left the house and proceeded to another brothel at 18, Hollywood Road. They were there until between two and three o'clock in the morning, and there had another two bottles of wine which they consumed on the same principle as the wine consumed in No. 12.

His Worship—Did all this happen on the 3rd?

Mr. Morrell—On the 3rd they went to No. 12, but by the time they got to No. 18 it was the early morning of the 4th.

Proceeding, Mr. Morrell said the two left No. 18 after stating that they were staying at the Hongkong Hotel. The woman gave the mistress of the house the number of her room, but the latter could not remember it. However, they left there and returned to the hotel, and presumably arrived about 3.30 a.m. Then it was not known what happened, but presumably the crime was committed between the time of their arrival and eight o'clock in the morning. The evidence was purely circumstantial as to the crime, inasmuch as no one was actually an eye witness. But in a case of murder with malice aforethought there was very rarely an eye witness to the crime, because a man when he planned to commit murder did not ask his relatives and friends to be present. He generally did it as secretly as he could. At six o'clock on the same morning the accused went to Wanchai and bought a sandalwood box, and he would be identified by the shopman who sold it to him. Whether he had committed the crime when he bought that box, or whether he was then thinking of it, was unknown, but the fact remained that at 6 a.m. he bought a sandalwood trunk which was afterwards found at the hotel. At about eight o'clock next morning he came out of his room and asked for two coolies. They came, and he told them to move a saratoga trunk—which was afterwards found on the *Monteagle* with the victim inside—to the lift of the hotel. They took it to the lift and it was taken down by the lift boy. On arrival in the hall below accused went to a counter clerk and borrowed \$10, for which he signed a chit. Then he asked the counter clerk to call in outside coolies to carry the trunk. They were sent for and two came, and were told by accused to take the trunk. Accused got in a ricksha and went with it to the office of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire. Arrived there he entered the office and told Mr. Kent he wanted the trunk booked to Hoihow by the s.s. *Sungari*. Papers were issued for the booking of the trunk to Hoihow, and the question arose as to the address on it, which was simply A. H. Jacks, Hoihow. Mr. Kent asked how it was to be delivered, and the accused said it was to be left till called for, as the addressee was travelling in the neighbourhood of Hoihow and would call for it. Then the accused went away, and returned an hour or two afterwards, saying that he had altered his mind as to the trunk. He would have it consigned to Sydney, as it would be more convenient. Mr. Kent thought

this rather funny, but told the man to go away and come back in office hours. Accused left, but returned at four in the afternoon and removed the trunk. He engaged two coolies to take it to the bamboo wharf known as Murray Pier, and was identified by one of these coolies. Arrived there he told the coolies to put the box on a sampan, and accused went with it, and told the people aboard where to row. He told them to row down to Causeway Bay and put it on a four masted steamer which was there. This turned out to be the *Monteagle*. The boatman identified the accused, picking him out from eleven other men without hesitation. When the *Monteagle* was reached he went on board, and was met by the quartermaster. He asked the quartermaster to put the trunk in the hold, saying he would return on board later as a passenger. The quartermaster was unable to put the trunk in the hold as it was passengers' luggage, so he put it in a place kept for such luggage. On the 7th, the third day after the trunk was put on board, the people on the ship noticed a bad smell, and tried to find what was the cause of it. Eventually they traced it to the trunk put on board by the accused, opened it, and found the dead body of an adult female. The police were at once sent for, and Sergeant Watt went aboard and had the body removed to the mortuary at Kowloon. The body was taken out of the box, and medical evidence would show that it had been packed tightly in it. The head was hanging down, the thighs were flexed, and the body was pushed down tight. It took some force to remove it from the box, and when it was removed it was found that around the throat was the band of a lady's dress tied in a tight knot, which was twisted with the handle of a hair brush. The handle was still in the band and sticking up, with the brush almost in front of the throat. The body was so decomposed that it was almost impossible to say what had exactly caused death, but the doctor would say that the tightening of the band would have caused death. He had examined the body carefully, externally and internally, and could find no other reason for the death. Next accused was identified as having pawned here with a pawnbroker two diamonds. Among the jewellery of the victim there was a ring which one of the witnesses would say, who knew her well, had two diamonds in it. Most of the jewellery belonging to the deceased had been recovered, but that ring had not. The police then endeavoured to find the culprit. They got a very good description of him and wired to all the coast ports, and eventually the accused was arrested at Chefoo, and upon him there was found a quantity of jewellery and property which has since been identified as belonging to the deceased. From Chefoo he was sent by the cruiser *Galveston* to Manila. There he was set free and at once rearrested by the Manila police and held for extradition. Police officers' evidence and documents were sent there, he was extradited, and now stood before the Court. Up till the time the police realised who it was they were looking for, the body had not been identified, but a woman from Manila came up who knew the deceased, and the body which had then been buried at the Colonial Cemetery was exhumed and taken into the mortuary. There the woman identified the body as that of Gertrude Dayton by the hands, certain gold filled teeth and the general conformation of the body. Since the prisoner had been here three identifications were held in the jail, when all the witnesses were given an opportunity to recognise him. No less than twelve witnesses for the prosecution identified the man. Mr. Morrell concluded by saying he would call witnesses to prove the whole story as he had opened.

J. H. Oxberry was the first. He said he was a runner employed by the Hongkong Hotel Co. He remembered the *s.s. Eastern* arriving on August 3rd, and brought some passengers off that vessel. There was a Mr. Ross and a Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Jones. The man in the dock was the same Mr. W. H. Jones. He had a lady with him that day. Witness took them both off to the Hotel and they took a room there—room No. 184, fifth floor.

Cross-examined—Mr. Ross also put up at the hotel, but witness could not say which room

he had. He knew the number of the prisoner's room because he (the prisoner) came downstairs to look for his luggage. Witness was in the office at that time. There was no special reason why he should have seen this particular registration, but he often saw people register.

How do you know that this man called Ross was named Ross?—He registered under that name.

Have you seen the prisoner here before?—I saw him when he came here last year.

What did he come up for?—He went to the Baltimore Hotel on that occasion, and the proprietor of that hotel told me he came up to get a fight on.

And you know nothing about the departure of the accused from the hotel?—No, nothing.

Mr. Harding here suggested that the Chinese witnesses ought to be called first, as if they were not, they would be speaking about the case in the meantime.

Mr. Morrell—I submit I am entitled to conduct my case in my own way, and take the witnesses in chronological order.

His Worship—They cannot understand English, can they?

Mr. Morrell—Even if they do I am entitled to call my witnesses in chronological order. I never heard a solicitor raise such a point before.

His Worship—I don't know that it makes much difference.

The witnesses were called as the Crown Solicitor desired.

A. B. Soonderam, a counter clerk in the employ of the Hongkong Hotel Co., said that between 2 and 3 p.m. on 4th August Mr. W. H. Jones registered his name on the Hongkong Hotel registry and asked for the loan of \$10. Witness lent him the amount. The man in question was in the dock. When he signed a chit witness took it and compared it with the register. The signatures tallied, so he lent the money. When he received this he asked witness to get him two coolies to carry a sample case to a certain firm. He did not mention the name of the firm. The chit (produced) was the one he signed. Witness gave orders to the hall porter about outside coolies, and he got two. Witness asked prisoner where he wanted the sample case carried to, so that he could explain in Chinese to the hall porter to tell the coolies where to go. Prisoner replied that he was going out together with the coolies. Witness did not notice the sample case.

Cross-examined—Witness was empowered to give a loan not exceeding \$10 to boarders at the Hotel. He was quite sure accused asked him to get outside coolies. Hotel coolies only carried boarders' luggage to the launch. He did not know what luggage accused took from the hotel, and after he had left witness made no inquiries as to whether he had taken away any more of his luggage. He did not see the accused return to the hotel. Before that afternoon witness had not seen the prisoner, but he identified him at Manila.

R. Soonderam, another counter clerk at the Hongkong Hotel, remembered on August 3rd a gentleman calling at the Hotel and registering. This was between 11 and 12 noon. He came off the *s.s. Eastern*. There was no one with him when witness saw the accused, who signed in the visitors book "Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Jones." Witness assigned him room No. 184, but he would not take it, saying the price was too high. The manager reduced the price to \$12 a day for two persons. Accused then took it, and witness rang the bell for the hall porter to take him up. [The hotel register was produced, and witness pointed out the name written by accused. The entry was marked and the pages sealed.] Witness could not identify the man at the jail as Mr. W. H. Jones. He picked out another man.

Cross-examined—How do you know that the man arrived by the *Eastern*?—Because the runner entered it in the launch book.

You've told us W. H. Jones haggled about the price and eventually it was reduced to \$12?—Yes.

Was the manager there?—He was near, but did not see Mr. Jones, being behind a board containing the visitors' names.

Re-examined—While witness was on duty the only people who went to the Hotel were taken there by Oxberry. The visitors' book was on the

counter, and in case of married couples it was only necessary for one party to sign.

May Hempstead was the next witness. She said she was a married woman residing at 52, Hollywood Road. She knew Gertrude Dayton, and saw her on August 3rd last about 10 or 10.30 p.m. in her house. Gertrude Dayton went to see her to borrow some money. She was accompanied by a man she introduced as Jones, but said that was not his proper name. She could not identify Jones but he impressed her as being young and fair. She thought the prisoner was Jones. Witness had known Gertrude Dayton for many years. The pair stayed in her house from an hour and a half to two hours. While there they drank nine pints of champagne. Witness, Miss Dayton and the man she was with were drinking. When a bottle of wine is ordered it is not often completely drunk. (Witness produced one of the glasses used) and said when the boy took round the wine he never filled a glass up unless specially requested. He usually filled the glass about half way up, and no more was taken out of the bottle unless specially asked for. Gerty Dayton signed a chit for nine bottles of wine. Witness had not the chit. She tore it up after hearing of the murder because she did not want to be mixed up in the affair. When Gertrude Dayton tried to borrow money, she offered Post Office Orders as security. The man with her had them in his pocket, and she asked him to hand them to her. Witness did not take them in her hand, but recognised them as Post Office Orders. When Gertrude Dayton entered the house she told witness she was getting tipsy. Witness did not notice whether the man was, but both visitors walked out all right. Gertrude Dayton had rings on her fingers but witness could not say how many.

Cross-examined—Witness did not know the value of the notes Gertrude Dayton produced.

Mr. Harding—What amount did you charge for the wine in your house?

Mr. Morrell—I object to the question.

Mr. Harding—I would like to address your Worship on this point.

The witness should be warned not to answer the question.

Mr. Harding—It is laid down perfectly clearly in Archibald's Criminal Proceedings that in incriminating questions objection must first be taken by the witness. Counsel on the opposite side cannot argue the question. It is laid down in two cases, and I must object to my friend making any comment at all on it.

Mr. Morrell—How many other cases are against it?

Mr. Harding—Will your Worship allow me to put the question?

His Worship—What for?

Mr. Harding—Just to test the veracity of the witness. It is a link in the evidence, and if a link breaks the whole chain falls.

Mr. Morrell—No witness is bound to incriminate himself or herself.

Mr. Harding—I want to take her through the interview at her house piecemeal.

Mr. Morrell—She said a chit was signed and had been destroyed, and I submit my friend has no right to go any further.

Mr. Harding—I would like to know what your Worship's ruling is.

His Worship—If you insist upon it, Mr. Harding, I am afraid you must; but it is not a fair question.

Mr. Harding—Your Worship may perhaps alter your view when I tell you. The deceased had rings, and surely a ring would be sufficient instead of bringing out a lot of notes.

Witness—No. She wanted money to pay her bills here.

Mr. Harding—That has not been given in evidence.

Mr. Morrell—Well, you've got it now, anyway. I think the witness should be warned in a fair manner that she need not answer the question.

Mr. Harding—That is not the Court's duty.

His Worship—I cannot prevent the question being asked.

Mr. Morrell—But the mistress can refuse to answer it.

Mr. Harding again put the question.

Witness—Must I answer?

His Worship—No, you need not answer.

Mr. Harding asked his Worship to make a note of the fact.

Proceeding, witness said Gertrude Dayton asked her to cash one of her Post Office Orders, but witness refused.

You have no idea how much money this woman wanted to borrow?—No.

Now you've told us the man who accompanied this woman looked young and fair. What do you call young?—About 28.

Did he have a moustache?—No he was clean shaven.

Did you know Gertrude Dayton had trouble with a woman named B. Booth in Manila?—Yes. She told me so. She said she had collected some insurance money belonging to Beatrice Booth and that was why she left Manila hurriedly.

Did she say whether that money was represented by these Post Office notes?—No.

While you were engaged in the conversation did any one come into the room?—I don't think so.

Which room in your house were these people sitting in?—In the drawing room. Afterwards they went into the dining room.

How long did you know Miss Dayton?—Eight or nine years.

Do you know a woman of the name of Josie Marshall?—I know who she is.

Is she a friend of B. Booth?—I don't know, I don't know B. Booth well enough to know her friends.

Is she a friend of Gerty Dayton's?—I think she is.

Josie Marshall is in the Colony at the present time, is she not?—Yes.

Mr. Morrell—I propose to call her.

Lolita Lavitt said she was a single woman living at 44, Lyndhurst Terrace. On August 3rd she was living at 18, Hollywood Road. She knew Gertrude Dayton, and last saw her alive about two o'clock on the morning of August 4th. This was at 18, Hollywood Road. There was a man with her, who was apparently an American. They stayed an hour, and had two pint bottles of champagne. Out of one bottle they had half a glass each, but she did not know anything about the second bottle. Gertrude Dayton did not appear the worse for liquor; neither did the man. While in the house Gertrude Dayton told witness she was staying at the Hongkong Hotel. She also gave the number of the room, but witness could not remember it. She had met Gertrude Dayton once or twice before, but could not identify the man. Miss Dayton signed a chit for \$10. She was wearing some rings, but witness did not notice them particularly.

Cross-examined—Josie Marshall went to 18, Hollywood Road on the 9th or 10th of August. She said she was on her way to the States, and remarked that she had heard about the murder of Miss Dayton on that date.

Mr. Harding—Did you have any conversation with her about the murder?

Mr. Morrell objected to the question.

His Worship—You can ask about the conversation, but how can you get it in?

Mr. Harding—I suggest that what Josie Marshall said to this witness is evidence.

Mr. Morrell—Certainly not.

His Worship—What is the question?

Mr. Harding—I want to know what in particular she and Josie Marshall said about this murder.

His Worship—That is not evidence.

Continuing, witness said there were no other ladies in the house on the night of the 3rd or the morning of the 4th August. The boy served the wine but witness could not say whether he entered once, or more than once. Witness had never heard the name Adsetts mentioned in connection with the crime until she saw it in the newspapers.

Mr. Harding—You had a conversation with Josie Marshall. Will you swear the name of Adsetts was not mentioned then?

Mr. Morrell—I object to that your Worship. My friend is trying to get facts he can't get in any other way.

Mr. Harding—I am trying to prove the veracity of the witness.

His Worship—I don't know how you are going to get the conversation in.

Mr. Harding—For the purpose of testing the veracity of this witness I submit that I am entitled to ask whether the name of Adsetts was not mentioned in this conversation.

His Worship upheld the Crown Solicitor's objection.

Proceeding, witness thought Miss Marshall produced the chit (in Court) a few days ago. She did not know how Miss Marshall got possession of it. She did not know B. Booth, but Gertrude Dayton and Josie Marshall were friends. She did not know why Josie Marshall was still remaining in the Colony.

Re-examined—Witness left No. 18 either on the 12th or 13th August. The chit signed for wine belonged to the house. When witness left Miss Marshall was living in No. 18.

The hearing was adjourned until 2.15 this afternoon.

The trial of William Hall Adsetts, who stands indicted on the charge of murdering Gertrude Dayton at the Hongkong Hotel on August 4th, was continued before Mr. C. D. Melbourne at the Police Court on October 2nd. Mr. Amos P. Wilder, American Consul-General, was seated alongside his Worship.

Mr. G. E. Morrell (Crown Solicitor) prosecuted, and Mr. B. Harding appeared for the accused.

Chung Wo, carpenter at the Chung Hop Ch'n No. 113 Wanchai Road, said he sold a camphor wood trunk to the accused on August 4th at 6.30 a.m. He had not seen the man since.

Mr. Morrell—Didn't you see him in the jail?

Mr. Harding—I suggest my friend can't put a question like that; it is leading the witness.

Mr. Morrell—Have you seen him since he bought the trunk?

Witness—I saw him at the identification in the jail.

Continuing, witness said the accused gave him one American gold piece, valued \$9.50, for the trunk. The trunk produced was the one he sold accused.

Cross-examined—Witness identified the trunk by two small holes on the inside of the lid. There were no other holes in the trunk.

Mr. Harding (pointing to another part)—Is there not two similar holes there?

Witness—Yes.

Proceeding, witness said he had no more boxes the same size in his shop at present. When he sold it, it was the only one of the same size and description he had in his shop. Witness had a clock in his shop. The box was carried away by two small boys, his apprentices. No woman accompanied the purchaser to the shop. It was not an unusual thing for Europeans to call at his shop to buy boxes. They usually bought the kind before the Court, but he could not tell if the previous one sold was similar to the exhibit in Court. Witness did not remember the day on which he was asked to identify the prisoner. It was four or five days ago. He was then asked to go to the jail to see which was the man.

Mr. Harding—I put it to you, you were told to come up here to see if you could identify a man who had committed a murder?

Witness—Yes, people were talking about it.

Mr. Harding—Did you come up to the jail willingly and offer to identify the man, or were you sent for?

Witness—The police sent for me; a Chinese constable came.

J. W. Oxberry, recalled, produced the agents' launch book. On August 3rd he visited the s.s. *Eastern* and brought off four passengers from Manila. All these passengers went to the Hongkong Hotel. [The page containing this entry was sealed up.]

Yeung Cheung, a room boy at the Hongkong Hotel, said he looked after the rooms on the fourth floor. On August 3rd an American and a lady engaged room 184. He had not seen the man since he left the Hotel, but the defendant was that man. Witness again saw the defendant on the 4th shortly after 11 a.m. Hearing the bell, he went to the room, and the accused told him to get two coolies to carry a box. Witness did not see anybody else in the room. He got two hotel coolies went back with them to the room, and the accused told him to have the box carried below. The box produced was the one. After the accused left, about twelve o'clock, witness tidied up the room. He found that two towels were missing. A few days ago he came up to the jail, where he saw a number of men. He was told to identify the guest who

stayed in No. 184, and picked him out from a number of men.

Cross-examined—Witness had been told that the man who took room 184 was an American. On September 25th he came to the jail to identify him. Witness has been employed in the hotel over ten years. He did not remember whether anybody took a room on the fourth floor on the second, fourth or fifth of August, but he remembered the defendant took a room on the third. Witness could not remember any one taking a room on the other days, because he had too much work. He began work at six a.m. leaving off about 12 p.m. Witness did not see the luggage belonging to the people who took room 184 when it arrived. He remembered the arrival of the man in the dock and the woman who was with him. An office-boy took the man up to the room. This was between 11 a.m. and 12 noon. He did not know whether they went out for tiffin that day, neither did he see them go down to dinner in the evening. He had not seen the woman since her arrival, but he saw the man twice. The lock of the door of room 184 was in good working order. When the guests arrived there were four towels in the room. The two he missed were bath towels. Witness did not notice whether the trunk he saw taken out had any labels on it. He noticed nothing distinctive about it which enabled him to identify it. When the trunk was shown him by the police, he did not hesitate in identifying it. The murder was first brought to his knowledge through the police. They told him a murdered woman had been found in a trunk. He picked out the trunk before the Court from a number of trunks. When witness tidied up the room, the bed appeared to have been slept in. He did not know whether the guests had had any refreshments, liquid or solid.

Re-examined—Witness did not often miss towels from a room. He was held responsible for any towels lost.

The further hearing was adjourned.

The trial of William Hall Adsetts, who stands indicted on the charge of murdering Gertrude Dayton at the Hongkong Hotel on August 4th, was continued before Mr. C. D. Melbourne at the Police Court on October 3rd. Mr. Amos P. Wilder, American Consul-General was seated alongside his Worship.

Mr. G. E. Morrell (Crown Solicitor) prosecuted, and Mr. B. Harding appeared for the accused.

The Crown Solicitor informed his Worship that he expected the case would last all the week. He understood the defence was calling some witnesses too.

Ben Fell, employed at the American Consulate at Chefoo, but now on leave, said he had known the man in the dock for some months as W. H. Adsetts. Witness saw the defendant when he came back to Chefoo on 13th August last. He was arrested on information. First he was taken to the American Consulate where witness saw him when he was brought in. Witness was present when Adsetts was searched and saw all the property taken from his person. There was other property in a travelling bag which witness saw opened. Besides several articles of clothing there were several silver toilet articles all of which were engraved with the name of "Gertrude." Witness identified the articles, one of which was not so engraved. Shown several articles (gold brooches, pins &c.), witness identified them as having been taken from the person of Adsetts. Among the articles was a Hongkong cent which witness could not identify, but it was the same as was taken from him. There was also a lady's gold watch, diamond set, and a gentleman's gold watch with the initials, "W.H.H." engraved on the case. A number of pins, earrings and five pieces of English gold (produced) were found on Adsetts' person. Numerous other articles of jewellery were identified by this witness. One steamship ticket from Manila to Tacoma and a ticket to be exchanged for a railway ticket from Tacoma to New York, both dated 16th July, 1907, fourteen money orders for \$100 gold, each payable to Mrs. Huffer, were also identified by the witness as among the property found on Adsetts. Besides the property identified there were other articles of clothing etc., also two cameras and some toilet articles in the grip carried by the

accused. All the articles described were taken from Adsetts in the American Consulate at Chfoo in presence of witness. The bag, or grip was found on a small Japanese steamer in Chefoo harbour.

Cross-examined by Mr. Harding witness said he had not seen the bag in accused's possession. The bag was brought in by Deputy Marshall Bellew. Witness was a clerk in the Consulate. He did not see the arrest of Adsetts. Bellew who had been made Deputy Marshall that day, was now running a garden for sailors. The Magistrate—I don't know what you want this for.

Mr. Harding—I want it to know what sort of man he was who searched the accused. There are several articles missing and I want to reclaim them.

Witness continuing said he could not swear that the articles produced were all that were found on Adsetts's person. Witness did not know if Bellew was still running a garden. By the Court—When defendant was searched, what sort of condition was he in?

Witness—He appeared to be in an unconscious condition; he was lying on the floor.

Wong Chuen, a servant on the fourth floor of the Hong-ong Hotel, said that on 14th August a murder was committed.

Mr. Morrell—is it part of your duty to know who are in the rooms?

Mr. Harding—I object to the question my friend is suggesting.

At this stage there were repeated objections by Mr. Harding which Mr. Morrell described as childish.

Mr. Harding asked that his objection be noted.

Witness said he did not know so much when asked several questions, whereupon Mr. Morrell asked leave to treat the witness as hostile.

Did you give the police any information?—I don't know.

Have you seen Mr. Adsetts before?—Yes.

Now, haven't you made a statement with regard to this case to Inspector Hanson?

Mr. Harding—I object to any question that may incriminate this witness.

Mr. Morrell—I have no idea of incriminating the witness.

Mr. Harding—He has asked to be allowed to treat this witness as hostile and it tends towards incriminating him.

His Worship noted Mr. Harding's objections.

Witness, proceeding, admitted making a statement to Mr. Hanson. Some of the rooms on his floor were engaged that day. People came to room 184 after eleven o'clock. They were a lady and gentleman and they gave him some soiled clothes to send to the wash. At 9.45 they went up to their room in the lift and about a quarter of an hour later they both went out. Next day he saw the man at six in the morning at the door of the room next to 184. About eight o'clock the man told witness not to enter his room as his wife was asleep. The man went downstairs. Witness never again saw the lady. Witness saw the box produced in the other room. He could not identify the accused.

In cross-examination witness said he had not talked to the other room boys about the case. He was asked to come to the gaol and identify a European. Nothing was said to him. He had heard about the murder but he did not know if it was six months or one month ago.

The accused man smiled broadly at some of the answers given by witness.

Witness said the box produced was in the same external condition now as when he saw it enter the hotel on 3rd August. He had no other reason for identifying it except that he had seen it on that day. Witness swore that he was not called upon to open the door after the box had gone. The man was a tall man and the lady was nearly as tall as the man.

The case was adjourned until this afternoon.

A Peking letter states that the members of the Ministry of Posts and Communications have been, during the past few days, in daily consultation with their Excellencies Na Tung and Yuan Shih-kai of the Waiwupu in regard to the question of the redemption of the Peking-Hankow Railway.

WEDDING IN THE CATHEDRAL.

CAPTAIN TAYLOR A.D.C., AND MISS BRACKENBURY.

The wedding of Captain Taylor (A.D.C. to His Excellency the Governor) to Miss Brackenbury, niece of Lady Lugard, was solemnised in St. John's Cathedral on Oct. 1st. A marriage is always interesting, as all the world loves a lover, but yesterday's event was of more than ordinary interest because of the social position of the parties. Though they have been in the Colony only a few months they have made many friends, and their circle of well wishers could hardly have been larger had the happy event been celebrated at home. The military and official portions of the community were largely represented and of course the number of spectators was large. Fortunately also, the weather was such as to give the bride all the traditional hopes of future happiness, and everything passed off as smoothly and as harmoniously as could be wished.

Shortly after two o'clock a fairly large congregation had assembled in the Cathedral, the approach to which was held by European, Indian and Chinese police under Chief Inspector Baker. The chancel was beautifully decorated under the direction of Mrs. Tooker, while Mr. Fitcher was responsible for the picturesque floral effects in the centre aisle. The pretty little bridesmaids and pages were next seen waiting at the entrance, and shortly before the hour appointed for the ceremony Captain Taylor and Mr. A. D. Brackenbury, private secretary to the Governor, made their appearance and entered by the side of the church. A few minutes later Lady Lugard arrived, accompanied by Captain Ogle and Captain Monteiro, A.D.C. to His Excellency the Governor of Macao. They were followed by His Excellency the Governor and Miss Brackenbury. The bride was assisted from her chair, and taking the arm of His Excellency was led up the aisle, the organ meanwhile rolling out its impressive tones.

The pages, Masters David and Tony Keswick, dressed as sailors, followed the bridesmaids, Miss Aileen Hastings, Misses Pheobe, Iris and Dinne May, two of whom were attired in Kate Greenaway dresses and the other couple wore dresses of cream silk. They had each wreaths of daisies on their heads, and wore gold bangles the gifts of the bridegroom. The pages wore bosun's silver whistles and chains; also given by the bridegroom. The bride, who was given away by His Excellency Sir Frederick Lugard, and the bridegroom, who was supported by Mr. Brackenbury, brother of the bride, as best man, took up positions at the altar steps. The bride wore a dress of white satin trimmed with beautiful old Irish lace. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. F. T. Johnson, and the service was fully choral, the hymns sung being "The voice that breathed o'er Eden" and "Oh perfect love." Mr. Denman Fuller presided at the organ and all the choir boys were in attendance. The responses of the contracting parties were fairly audible. When the parties retired to the vestry to sign the register they were accompanied by Sir Frederick and Lady Lugard. On returning they passed through an arch of crossed swords, His Excellency the General Officer Commanding and Captain Monteiro taking their positions at the top. Leaving the church, the newly wedded couple entered chairs and were conveyed to Government House, where a reception was given.

The following invitations to the wedding were issued:—

Hon. Dr. and Mrs. Atkinson.
Sir Henry, Lady and the Misses Berkeley, Archdeacon and Mrs. Banister, Mr. Barretto, Mr. Botelho, Mr. and Mrs. Brioso, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Braga, Mr. Branchflower, His Excellency Major General Broadwood, Captain Bonham, Captain and Mrs. Beasley, Mr. A. W. Brebner, Mr. and Mrs. Bird.

Hon. Mr. Mrs. and Miss Chatham, Hon. Sir Paul Chater, Captain Crawford, Miss Case, Major and Mrs. Chitty, Colonel and Mrs. Carter.

Hon. Mr. W. Rees Davies, Mr. Droeze, Captain and Mrs. Dooner, Colonel Dumbleton, Colonel Darling, Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Donald, Mr. and Mrs. d'Esteira,

Mr. and Mrs. Freemantle, Rev. and Mrs. France.

Captain Grenfell.

Hon. Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Hewett, Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, Mr. and Mrs. Hancock, Mr. and Mrs. G. Hastings, Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Hale, Miss Hamilton.

Mr. and Mrs. Jorge, Rev. F. T. Johnson, Dr. and Mrs. Jordan, Jemadah Mahammad Khan.

Hon. Mr. and Mrs. H. Keswick, Colonel Keat.

Captain and Mrs. Lyons, Mr. Mrs. and Miss Layton, Mr. and Mrs. Looker, Miss Low, Mr. G. T. Lloyd, Captain and Mrs. Vaughan Lee.

Colonel and Mrs. Scott Moncrieff, Hon. Mr. and Mrs. May, Mr. and Mrs. Marty, Mr. Machitio, Mr. Moreno, Mr. and Mrs. Moxon, Mr. and Mrs. Mackay, Miss Mansfield, Captain da Fonseca Monteiro, Mr. and Mrs. Chester Master.

Captain Ogle, Hon. Mr. E. Osborne.

Major and Mrs. Parry, Colonel Price, Major Phillips, Mr. and Mrs. Peter, Miss Pearson, Mr. Parr, Rev. T. W. and Mrs. Pearce, Mr. and Mrs. Pereira.

Major Ross, Mr. and Mrs. Ram, Conselheiro and Mrs. Romano.

Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Slade, Commodore Stokes, Rev. G. Searle, Colonel and Mrs. Seymour, Lieut. Satterthwaite, Mr. Swart, M. Szentermay, Dr. and Mrs. Sanders, Dr. and Mrs. Stedman, Mr. and Miss School, Mr. da Silva.

Mr. and Mrs. Turner, Hon. Mr. A. M. Thomson, M. Teissier, Mr. and Mrs. H. P. Tooker, Hon. Commander and Mrs. Basil R. H. Taylor.

Captain and Mrs. Wait, His Honour Mr. A. G. Wise, Hon. Mr. Wei Yuk, Mr. P. P. J. Wodehouse.

At the reception H. E. General Broadwood proposed the toast of the bride and bridegroom, and Captain Taylor briefly replied. Photographs of the bridal party were taken on the lawn and about five o'clock the happy couple departed amid a shower of rice on their honeymoon, boarding the Government launch *Stanley* for Ninepins near Macao. The bride's travelling dress was of cream serge trimmed with bands of white silk and guipure lace to match. She wore a cream hat with green foliage.

The presents, which were very much admired, were displayed in one of the reception rooms. Those received locally were—Mr. and Mrs. Ram, pair of Japanese watercolours framed; Dr. and Mrs. Jordan, silver salves; Mr. and Mrs. May, set of silver cruets; Mr. and Mrs. Hancock, set of silver salt-cellars; Mr. and Mrs. Donald, set of silver salt-cellars; Mr. Ogle, pair of silver vases; Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Braga, silver frame; Mr. Wodehouse, pair of gold bracelets; Capt. Nugent, silver tea caddy; Mr. and Mrs. Mackay, set of four Chinese coffee tables; Mr. and Mrs. Bunnle, five silver branch flower stands and four silver candlesticks; Capt. and Mrs. Lyons, silver frame; Herr and Frau Voritzsch, two icing bowls; Mr. and Mrs. Looker, silver sweet dish; Mr. and Mrs. Tooker, Opium stool; Mr. and Mrs. Pearce, Teatable cloth; Mr. and Mrs. Hewett, silver tea caddy; Dr. and Mrs. Atkinson, opium stool (large); Mr. and Mrs. Layton, pair of silver vases; Mr. Parr, carved ivory box; Capt. Bonham, four silver dishes; Miss Aileen Hastings, four mother-of-pearl dishes; Mrs. D'Esteira, silver card case; Col. and Mrs. Symons, fan; Mr. A. G. Wise, Fan; Mrs. H. Bird, Case of six liqueur glasses; Major and Mrs. Parry, silver scent bottle; Col. and Mrs. Carter, silver bridge box; Comds. and Mrs. Basil Taylor, case of silver carvers and fish knife; Dr. Sanders, Miss Sanders, Miss Schoeb, and Miss Pearson, carved blackwood table; Mr. and Mrs. Pereira, carved blackwood card table; Mr. and Mrs. Keswick, a piece of old Chinese embroidery; Lady Superior, French Convent (to Miss Brackenbury) blouse and lace handkerchief. (To Capt. Taylor) a dozen embroidered handkerchiefs; Lady Superior, Italian Convent, tea jacket; Sir Francis Piggett, a book; Mr. and Mrs. Freemantle, set of Shakespeare's works, Mr. A. Haupt, silver salver; General Broadwood, set of four sweet dishes; Major Ross, fan; Mr. Rees Davies, silver sugar basin; Dr. Ho Kai, silver model of ricksha and coolie, fitted as crust; Mr. Wei Yuk, Silver model of sampans and crew, fitted as crust; Mr. and Mrs. Hale, two brass ornaments; Mr. A. W. Brebner, two silver mounted cloisonne vases; Mr. and Mrs.

Chatham, pair of silver vases and a silver frame; Commodore Stokes, Pair of silver vases; Capt. Worthington, pair of Japanese vases; The Consular community, Mr and Mrs. Volpicelli, Mr. and Mrs. Bibosia, Mr. Teissier, Mr. A. P. Wilder, Mr. de Szantirmay, Mr. Moreno, Mr. Droeze, silver bowl on blackwood stand.

Sir Paul Chater, complete silver dressing table set; Mr and Mrs A. G. Romano, pair silver dessert dishes and spoons; Hon. Mr. Osborne, Chinese silver ornament stand; Mrs Jorge, silver cruet set; Lady Lugard, silver tray and tea service; Sir Frederick Lugard, a green jade necklace; Mr. Brackenbury, silver cake basket; Captain Vaughan Lee, Commander Reikes, Commander Grenfell, and Mr. Blanchflower, a handsome Japanese silver cup.

HONGKONG CRICKET CLUB.

The annual meeting of the Hongkong Cricket Club was held in the Pavilion on Sept. 30th. Mr. F. Maitland presided, and there were also present Hon. Dr. Atkinson, Messrs. R. Hancock, W. C. D. Turner and T. C. Gray, members of committee, Captain H. E. Stanger Leathes, I.M.S., Lieut. J. M. C. Taylor, 119th Infantry, Lieut. E. W. Isaacson, R.N., Messrs. A. Mackenzie, F. A. Ram, F. J. Gelathorpe, H. L. Garrett, H. A. Lammert, A. E. Asger, F. Lammert, E. M. Hazeland, E. A. Fowler, W. F. F. Swan, A. R. Sutherland, C. B. Franklin and R. Pestonji.

The CHAIRMAN said:—Gentlemen, The report and accounts have been in your hands for a few days and I will take them as read. They are very clear and full, and for your information comparisons of receipts and expenditures with the previous year have been detailed therein. Your Committee regret that they have not been able to redeem any debentures, the chief reason being the large falling off in subscriptions, which show a reduction of \$1,722.50 as compared with 1904/5 season. There is also a serious loss in the Racquet Court (\$770.93) and if more support is not given to the game by members in the future, your Committee will have to consider whether or not it is worth while to run the courts in connection with the Cricket Club. I hope you will all do what you can to secure new members, and the incoming Committee have to economise as much as possible in order that we may be in a position to pay off some of the Debentures before the next accounts are laid before you. It has been suggested that a ball and possibly a fete be held in the winter to help the Club funds. You will be pleased to hear that Shanghai have accepted our invitation to send a team down in November and we are hoping that the Straits will also send an eleven. I am sure we will all do our best to give them a good time and we trust that our representatives will give them a good beating. Several Tennis players have requested that the annual tournament should start before 1st April next. Should the interest in Cricket slaken off by early March, possibly a start could be made with the Tennis by 15th March, but it must always be kept in mind that Cricket comes first. The congratulations of the Club are due to Mr. T. E. Pearce on his batting average of 41.20, and to Mr. T. Sercoe to Smith on his bowling analysis of 10.77. Mr. Smith, our late president, has played regularly on this ground for over 20 years and his recent success with the ball is especially gratifying. In conclusion I would say that I have heard it remarked by certain taipans that too much time is taken up with games nowadays, with the result that we are losing our commerce. Surely this is a fallacy, as a certain amount of time spent in healthy exercise should tend to make a man more alert and useful in the office, and I hope that all taipans will do their best to facilitate the getting away of their employees more particularly when important Cricket matches are in progress. Before moving the adoption of the report and accounts I shall be pleased to answer any questions thereon to the best of my ability.

No questions were asked, and the CHAIRMAN moved the adoption of the report and accounts as presented.

Mr. MACKENZIE seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Dr. ATKINSON proposed that Mr. Maitland be elected president for the coming season. His cricket prowess was well known to all. For three years he held the best average as batsman, and he also held the highest bowling average, 2.4 an innings. All members knew his business capacities, and he trusted that the new president would be able to assist them out of their present financial difficulties (hear, hear).

Mr. H. A. LAMMERT seconded the motion, and it was carried *nem con*.

Mr. MAITLAND, in returning thanks, said he would do all he possibly could for the Club.

The next business was the election of a committee, and while a ballot was being taken the CHAIRMAN, who had just received a letter, said he was sorry to say they had not yet heard from the Straits with regard to the interport cricket match. Shanghai had sent a letter and asked the Club to fix dates. They would have to wire to the Straits, but he did not anticipate a favourable reply, as he had received a letter from a gentleman from Singapore in which it was stated that they would have great difficulty in getting a team together. He hoped, however, that they would come.

The result of a ballot for the committee was as follows:—Mr. F. Maitland, Hon. Dr. Atkinson, Major H. E. Lewis, Lieut. E. W. Isaacson, Messrs. T. C. Gray, H. Hancock, H. R. Phelps and W. C. D. Turner.

This was all the business and the meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

ROYAL HONGKONG YACHT CLUB.

The third annual meeting of the members of the above club was held on Sept. 30th in the City Hall. There was a good attendance which was presided over by the Hon. Mr. May.

The CHAIRMAN said they would notice in the report a suggestion that the best thanks of the club be offered to Mr. Percy Smith for his services as secretary and treasurer, and for the donation of a cup. He thought the Club was very grateful to Mr. Smith for the work he had done for them, and they appreciated his generous gift of that handsome cup which would be a source of envy to all of them until it was won by one of them (applause). The general committee also suggested that the Club's appreciation of the services of Mr. Cruickshank as captain and specially in designing the construction of the new boats, be recorded. They looked to the acquisition of those new boats to revive interest in rowing. The first of the north east monsoon had been piping through the Lysemoon Pass that morning, bringing hope to the hearts of yachtsmen and renewing courage in all of them. And it would require all the encouragement the nor-easter could give them to put the Club on a really sound basis. He was sorry to say that their membership had dwindled down to 208. Just before the amalgamation the Yacht Club had 72 members and the Boat Club had somewhat in the neighbourhood of 300. That was a big loss to the Club. He believed the increased subscription was frightening away some of them, but he felt confident that when their new club house which was rearing its stately head at North Point was completed it would prove a great attraction to Yachtsmen and oarsmen, and they might hope to see the Club in a thoroughly satisfactory state as regarded membership. He hoped one and all of them, whether yachtsmen or oarsmen, would do their best to induce others to join. They ought to put their shoulder to the wheel and get all the young men who came out to the Colony to take an interest in what was really one of Great Britain's premier sports. They hoped to have the new clubhouse open some time in the beginning of the year.

The Hon. Mr. May was re-elected commodore; Commodore Stokes, R.N., Hon. Mr. Keswick, Hon. Mr. Pollock, Messrs. H. W. Bird, H. P. Tooker, H. J. Walker were appointed members of the Yacht Committee; and Messrs. F. A. Biden, H. Broke, E. W. Carpenter, F. W. Warre, C. H. Blason and Bublinger were elected to the Rowing Committee. The Chairman commented in terms of pleasure at the inclusion of a German in the committee, as the men of that nationality took a great interest in sport. Messrs. Blason and Smith were appointed auditors.

A vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Franklin, who had undertaken the duties of secretary, for his services to the Club.

The CHAIRMAN alluded to the regatta and explained that Sir Matthew Nathan had presented a cup for rowing, to form the nucleus of the Hongkong Regatta. Only one regatta had been held and the typhoon by destroying all the boats had made it impossible to hold another since. All the original members of the committee remained, and on the suggestion of Mr. Warre he had approached His Excellency with a view to his becoming a patron for the regatta. The Governor had agreed to do so and had suggested that a committee elected by the V. R. C. and the Yacht Club should be elected to manage the regatta. If members approved of the suggestion the general committee would elect three of its members to act with three from the V. R. C.

Approved.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the proceedings.

THE SANITARY COMMISSION.

RE NUISANCE NOTICES.

Though little has been heard lately in a very direct way about the report of the Sanitary Commission he who runs may read in the reports of what the unofficial members are doing on the Sanitary Board that they are gathering ammunition for the inevitable discussions which will arise when the Government announces its decision upon the recommendations of the Commission. The answers given at Tuesday's meeting of the Board to the questions asked by Mr. Shelton Hooper have an obviously important bearing on the recommendation of the Commission that the Building Authority should be placed under the control of the Sanitary Department. It appears that since the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance came into force (1903) no fewer than 14,913 notices to abate nuisances have been issued by the Sanitary Department or Sanitary Board Office. A copy of every notice it appears is forwarded to the Building Authority, after it has been issued by the Sanitary Department officials, but the Hon. Mr. Chatham, who is the Building Authority, admitted that he himself saw nothing of the notices excepting in the comparatively few cases where prosecutions were contemplated. The remarkable thing about the matter is that though official objections have been made to the transfer of the Building Authority to the control of the Sanitary Department, this Department has for the past three years or more actually been doing all this work for the Building Authority and the entire cost has been defrayed out of the Sanitary Board appropriation.

KULANGSU (AMOI) MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

Minutes of a meeting of the Council held at the Board Room, on the 10th September 1907.

Present:—Messrs. W. N. Wallace (Chairman), C. A. V. Bowra, Nuang Ts'an-chew, W. Kruse, the Health Officer and the Secretary.

1. The minutes of the last meeting are read, and confirmed.

2. The Superintendent of Police reports the following cases have been dealt with at the Mixed Court since the last meeting.

SUMMONSES.

Breach of Municipal Regulations 3, Allowing pigs to stray 17, Committing a nuisance 1, Breach of contract 1, Debt 1, Obstructing a public road 1.

SUMMARY ARRESTS.

Theft 4, Breach of Municipal Regulations 1, Assault 1, Illegally carrying arms 1, Drunk and incapable 1, Committing a nuisance 2, Washing clothes at a public well 1, Being on enclosed premises for an unlawful purpose 1.

(Signed) W. N. WALLACE,
Chairman.

By order,
C. BERKELEY MITCHELL,
Secretary.

THE CUBICLE QUESTION.

The report of the committee appointed to consider and make suggestions for dealing with the Cubicle question, was yesterday laid before the Legislative Council by Command of His Excellency the Governor.

The report was as follows:—

Recommendations agreed to by the Committee appointed by His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government to enquire into and report upon the Cubicle question generally.

1. Cubicles must be permitted in houses.
2. As regards construction of cubicles, wool, metal or other material approved by the Building Authority should be laid down as the rule, subject to such being painted, whitewashed or otherwise kept clean to the satisfaction of the Sanitary Board.
3. As regards dimensions of such, the present limits prescribed by Section 154 should be adhered to, with the discretion presently existing and exercised by the Sanitary Board but without the necessity for the consent of the Governor-in-Council.
4. The conditions of the construction and maintenance of cubicles in existing houses should be left to the discretion of the Sanitary Board, without reference to the Governor-in-Council.

In the above connection the Board is recommended to exercise to the full extent its discretion provided for in the proviso to section 154 of the Principal Ordinance in the direction of permitting as many cubicles as is expedient on all floors including the ground floor after inspection of the premises by competent officers.

The number of cubicles allowed on each floor should be painted up conspicuously on such floor.

5. An addition should be made to the law in the shape of a proviso to Section 46, viz.:—
Any room not containing a cubicle may be inhabited to the extent of one adult person to every 30 square feet of floor space and 330 cubic feet of air space.

Sub-section 153 (b) 3 should be amended to permit the occupation of an accountant's office in a shop by not more than two persons at night.

6. In regard to re-erected houses, cubicles should be allowed in the same manner and to the same extent as in existing houses.

The words "or re-erected" should be struck out of Section 153 sub-section (a) and the following added:—"on any site which is now vacant or which is now occupied by domestic buildings of a European type or by any non-domestic building."

This will permit cubicles in re-erected houses of the tenement class, but will prohibit them in new houses on sites hitherto unoccupied by tenement houses of the ordinary Chinese type.

7. The Building Authority should have power by law to require that, in the case of domestic buildings erected on these sites, if intended for Chinese tenements, provision be made for the sub-division of each storey above the ground storey into rooms of a suitable area, the idea being to insist upon a proper provision of window spaces in such houses either laterally, or in such other manner as the architects may be able to devise.

8. No question of compensation arises in connection with any of the foregoing recommendations.

9. Government should undertake the demolition of the upper floors of every third house in blocks of Chinese tenements repayment of the expenditure incurred being made by the owners of the adjoining houses in respect of the improvements to their property by means of annual instalments extended over a period of years and calculated at such rate of interest as to ultimately recoup the Government for all its outlay.

The houses left standing will, if paragraph 5 is acted upon, legally house the persons displaced from the buildings so demolished.

Provided that any other scheme recommended by the Sanitary Board may be carried out in lieu of the above.

A. M. THOMSON,
Colonial Treasurer.
W. CHATHAM,
Director of Public Works.
EDWARD A. RAM.
EDWARD OSBORNE.

HENRY KESWICK.
HO KAI.
FRANCIS CLARK,
Medical Officer of Health.
WEI YUK.

10th August, 1907.

With regard to para. 9 I am unable to agree with the report. My personal experience in carrying out works upon old Chinese buildings leads me to believe that it will be, in a great majority of cases, impracticable—for structural reasons—or only practicable at the expense of what would almost amount to re-building.

These costly works, however provided for must lead to a considerable increase of rentals—to be paid for out of the meagre earnings of the coolie and artisan class—and I am not satisfied that the community, and especially the poorer Chinese section of it, will profit proportionately by this further increase in the cost of living here.

EDWARD A. RAM.

I agree to the recommendations as a means of improving the housing of the working classes but I do not agree that they, of themselves, are sufficient to eradicate Plague which in my opinion can only be effected by more frequent and thorough cleansing and the destruction of rats and vermin.

EDWARD OSBORNE.

I am in accord with Messrs. Ram and Osborne, and sign the recommendation in the hope that it may bring some improvement in the future. I consider however that § 154 of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance No. 1 of 1903 (as amended by Ordinances 20 and 23 of 1903) with its proviso would have properly met the case, assuming of course that the Sanitary Department carried out its duties in an intelligent manner.

In the past, however, the Sanitary Board by stricking closely to the letter of the law, and without taking the responsibility of exercising its judgment, has harassed the Chinese in a manner of expedients to obtain a certain amount of privacy and decency for themselves, such expedients being far worse than the evils with which the Ordinance was intended to deal.

In support of my opinion I quote the following official reply dated 25th July, 1907, to my enquiry as to how often the terms of the proviso had been availed of:—

"The number of cases in which the Sanitary Board have recommended to the Governor in Council modifications of or exemption from the requirements of § 154 of the Public Health and Building Ordinance, 1903, is as follows:—

1903,	4 Applications.
1904,	4 "
1905,	none. "
1906,	3 "
1907,	24 "

There are well over 5,000 Chinese tenement houses in which cubicles are used. It would be absurd to suggest that one hard and fast rule could be usefully made applicable to them all; much more so to endeavour to enforce it.

HENRY KESWICK.

Colonial Secretary's Office.
Hongkong, 3rd May, 1907.

SIR,—I am directed to invite the attention of the Sanitary Board to the proviso contained in Section 154 of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance which to judge from representations recently made to Government does not appear to have been availed of by the Board to deal with the cubicle question. I am now to suggest as a practical means for giving as much latitude in the use of the cubicles as is compatible with reasonable sanitary requirements to the poorer classes of Chinese inhabiting tenement houses, that the Board by means of some of its officers institute a house inspection and decide what number of cubicles might reasonably be allowed to be erected and maintained in each floor, and thereafter make recommendations accordingly for modification or exemption by the Governor-in-Council.

I am, etc.,

A. M. THOMSON,
Colonial Secretary.

The Secretary,
SANITARY BOARD.

It is reported from Peking that a sum of Tls 200,000 has been drawn from the treasury of the Kiangsi Customs for the purpose of purchasing a cruiser for Kiangsi.

THE BRITISH POST OFFICE AT TIENTSIN.

We are pleased to be in a position to assure our readers says the *Tientsin Times*, that there is every prospect of the British Post Office as an institution of Tientsin being maintained. We are not at liberty to at present enter into details as to the steps being taken, but it is satisfactory to know that the British mercantile community, supported by the other nationals who freely use the post office, have no intention of allowing the office to be closed if ways and means are forthcoming to keep it open.

Though there has as yet been no time for anything but telegraphic negotiations with Hongkong, these have been of a sufficiently explicit nature to afford a very good basis for public action, and this has been and is being energetically taken by the British Municipality, the Chamber of Commerce and China Association. It is an open secret that the post office is at present being worked at a loss not so far as the local office is concerned but in regard to the steamer subsidies for the transportation of the mails, and it is this transportation deficit which actuated the Hongkong Government in only making the agreement for a year and in now deciding to close the office.

In reply to the strong protests made by the local Chamber of Commerce an offer has now been generously made by the Hongkong Government which it is probable will be accepted and we hope in the course of a few days to be in a position to officially state what has been decided on.

That Tientsin will not consent to be again placed at serious postal disadvantage as compared with the minor ports of Chefoo, Amoy, Hankow, etc., may be taken as assured, and we may look for the office which has proved a valuable saving to the community to be permanently established.

MR. P. W. SERGEANT'S NEW BOOK

ANOTHER HISTORICAL BIOGRAPHY.

Mr. C. Werner Laurie of London is the publisher of Mr. Philip W. Sergeant's new book, entitled, "The Last Empress of the French." Mr. Sergeant, who left Hongkong over three years ago, has in the interval attained the position of an authority on modern French history, especially of the biographical sort. His "Burlesque Napoleon" received as favourable notice as his "Courtships of Catherine," and now this account of the life of the Empress Eugenie must be hailed as a worthy successor of the former works. Although the lady is still living, it does not appear that the author has the advantage of any special authorisation or assistance. He has undertaken a most careful research in the bibliographies of the subject, and added the shrewd analysis and discreet eclecticism that characterised his previous essays in this field. The record is brought right up to date, which alone makes it an indispensable addition to the literature devoted to the period and persons treated. As usual, he is a kindly biographer, to his subjects faults a little blind, though he cannot conceal the fact that some of the vagaries of her youth ruffled the susceptibilities of an age more conventional than her own. People talked of her riding in the streets of Madrid on a fiery bare-backed horse, with a cigarette in her mouth; of her appearance in brilliant Andalusian costumes at bull fights, with not a fan but a whip in her hand and a dagger in her belt, with red satin boots on her feet, and flowers and jewels in the broad golden plaits of her hair; and so forth. At Fontainebleau, in later years, "we are told of the Empress gathering her skirts about her and sliding down a sandbank, calling 'Follow your leader!' promptly imitated by all her suite." Indeed, the book is far from "dry," and readers will absorb political history readily with the relish here afforded. The other manners of other times have to be allowed for, and the reader will be convinced that herein he has a faithful picture of an interesting court, with a remarkable history. The book is published at 12s. 6d. nett.

WILLIAM POWELL LIMITED.

The report for presentation to the shareholders, at the sixth ordinary general meeting on 12th October, reads:—

The Directors beg to submit their report on the working of the Company for the year ending 30th June 1907.

The profit and loss account, including the sum of \$182.08 brought forward from last account, has a credit balance of \$4,940.97 from which has to be deducted Directors' and Auditor's fees, leaving \$2,640.97 which your Directors propose to appropriate as follows:—

To write off stock ... \$1,500.00
To provide for bad and doubtful debts ... 1,099.16
To carry forward to next account ... 41.81

\$2,640.97

Your Directors also propose to further write off stock the amount of \$4,500.00 standing to the credit of equalisation of dividend account.

DIRECTORS.

Messrs. F. H. Hinds and G. C. Moxon, the retiring directors, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITOR.

The accounts have been audited by your auditor, Mr. H. Percy Smith, Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants, who is eligible and whom your Directors recommend for re-election.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT for the year ending 30th June, 1907.

Dr.	\$ c.
To directors' and auditor's fees,	2,800.00
To balance,	2,640.97
Cr.	\$ 4,940.97
By balance from 30th June, 1906,	182.08
By dividend from investment,	272.46
By bad debts recovered,	48.06
By transfer fees,	11.50
By balance of working account,	4,928.89
	\$ 4,940.97

BALANCE SHEET 30th June, 1907.

LIABILITIES.	\$ c.
To capital authorised and issued:—	
15,000 shares at \$10,	150,000.00
To sundry creditors,	11,623.94
To the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank,	26,304.01
To unclaimed dividends,	27.80
To equalisation of dividend account,	4,500.00
To profit and loss account,	2,640.97
	\$195,096.72

ASSETS.

By sundry debtors.....	\$25,078.75
By fixtures and fittings,	10,816.22
By investment at cost,	2,450.00
By stock on hand as per manager's certificate,	154,926.10
By cash in hand,	1,797.83
By H. K. & S. Bank, dividend account,	27.80

THE DAIRY FARM COMPANY, LIMITED.

The report for presentation to shareholders at the eleventh ordinary yearly meeting on October 14th reads:—

The directors herewith present to the shareholders a statement of the Company's accounts for the year ended 31st July, 1907.

The profit for the year, after writing off \$30,897.68 for depreciation and bad debts, and providing for directors' and auditor's fees amounts to \$50,474.35, from which it is proposed to pay a dividend of one dollar and thirty cents per share, absorbing \$32,500; to transfer, to cattle reserve \$10,000; to typhoon and fire insurance fund \$5,000; and carry forward \$2,974.85.

Directors.—Messrs. F. Maitland and E. H. Hinds retire by rotation but are eligible for re-election.

Auditor.—The annexed accounts have been audited by Mr. H. Percy Smith, F.C.A., in Mr. W. Hutton Potts' absence from the Colony. Mr. Potts offers himself for re-election at this meeting.

FRANCIS MAITLAND,
Chairman.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

For the year ended 31st July, 1907.

Dr.	\$ c.
To directors' and auditor's fees,	2,700.00
To repairs and renewals,	4,969.40
To written off:—	
Buildings and property,	\$8,986.49
Furniture, machinery, and stores,	1,975.58
Share investments,	6,721.59
Steam launch,	1,000.00
Bad and doubtful debts,	1,713.97
	20,897.63
Balance,	50,474.35
	\$78,541.38

Aug. 1st, 1906.	Cr.	\$ c.
By balance from last year,		2,555.96
July 31st, 1907.		
By dividends on shares and interest,		5,446.42
By scrip fees,		43.00
By bad debts recovered,		4.58
By balance of working account,		70,491.44
		\$78,541.38

BALANCE SHEET 31st July, 1907.

LIABILITIES.	\$ c.
Capital,—	
25,000 shares at \$7.50 each,	\$187,500
Less not called up \$1.50 per share,	37,500
	150,000.00
Unclaimed dividends,	202.00
Cattle reserve,	50,000.00
Accounts payable,	23,197.94
Balance of profit and loss account,	50,474.35
	\$278,874.29

ASSETS.

Cattle		60,476.49
Buildings and property	\$48,986.49	
Less written off	8,986.49	
	<hr/>	40,000.00
Furniture, machinery and stores	10,975.58	
Less written off	1,975.58	
	<hr/>	9,000.00
Share investment and mortgages	83,324.09	
Less written off o/a shares ...	6,721.59	
	<hr/>	76,602.50
Steam launch	4,000.00	
Less written off	1,000.00	
	<hr/>	3,000.00
Cash at bank and in hand		33,213.08
Accounts receivable		36,296.99
Stocks on hand		15,285.21
		<hr/>
		\$278,874.29

EMPRESS-DOWAGER'S TEARS.

CONCERN FOR CHINA.

An official of the Imperial Palace at Peking informed the Peking correspondent of the N.-C. Daily News that, among the six Grand Councillors of State only Prince Ching and H.E. Yuan Shih-kai were called up for the special private audience in the Jénshou Throne Hall by the Empress Dowager on the morning of September 12th. Suddenly while they were consulting upon certain important affairs concerning the internal administration of China, to the utter amazement of the two high Ministers, Her Majesty burst into tears, declaring that the Chinese Empire was passing through such a dangerous time, with aggression from without and discord within, that she did not know what to do, nor which was the best scheme for the salvation of China. Then Her Majesty said that during the course of the last few months she had received many memorials from high officials in regard to the promised adoption of a constitutional administration for China. Some of them prophesied that the Empire would become the scene of a great revolution, even bigger than the Taiping Rebellion if the constitution were really introduced; but others were of opinion that the country could only be saved from destruction or absorption by the Powers, by a constitution.

Suggestions are so conflicting that Her Majesty feels (the correspondent says) that she can only proceed by asking each councillor his separate opinion. Upon this, both Prince Ching and H.E. Yuan strongly advised Her Majesty to adopt the representative system of government as soon as preparations permit; adding that at such a critical moment Her Majesty should not listen to false counsel, but should exercise her own discretion in the administration of both internal and external affairs of State, for most of the officials who oppose reform are simply concerned with their own private desires.

The Empress Dowager then ordered their Excellencies, Prince Ching and Grand Councillor Yuan to read carefully all memorials and dispatches regarding the grant of a constitution so that the best proposals from Viceroy and Governors may be selected for adoption. It is predicted that a definite date will be fixed before the return of the newly appointed three Imperial Commissioners, Wang, Yü and Ts, who will shortly proceed to England, Germany and Japan respectively to study the Constitutional Governments of these three leading countries. The new constitution is to be introduced at the end of the next five years, counting from January 1, 1908.

The meeting held to discuss the racial feeling between Manchu and Chinese was resumed on September 14th in the Lang yun yuan. The result has now been drawn up and presented to the Throne for Imperial approval. It is believed that the proposals will be made public by an Edict shortly.

HONGKONG TRADEMARK LAW.

NEW BOOK.

Mr. C. D. Wilkinson, solicitor, is the author of "a History of, and Treatise on, the Law in Hongkong relating to Trade-marks," just published by Messrs. Kelly and Walsh Ltd. There are no less than 57 cases cited. At present it appears the value of registration, pending further legislation, is dubious, and the author in this work makes clear the present position and rights of merchants and traders possessing trade-marks. Roughly, the costs incidental to complete registration of a trade-mark may be put at one hundred dollars. The first chapter deals lucidly with the Common Law bearing on the subject, and the relation of the local ordinances; the second treats of the Trade-Marks Ordinance of 1898; the third notices the recent construction of the Chief Justice, and the proposals for an amending ordinance, with the general principles involved; chapter four defines registrable trade-marks, and emphasises the importance of disclaimers; Old Marks are the subject of the fifth; the period of registration is considered in the next short chapter; cancellation is the topic of the seventh, chapter eight reviews the effect of registration under the Home Act of 1905; the ninth chapter discusses action for infringement and "passing off," with interesting comments on local usage; chapter ten is about assignment and transmission of trade-marks; the eleventh discloses the needs, issues, and possibilities of the proposed new Ordinance; and chapter twelve goes back to the Merchandise Mark Ordinance of 1863 and its forerunning Act of 1862. Texts of the various local ordinances, with schedules, and a carefully compiled index, occupy the remainder of the 122 pages.

FIRM CHINESE FOREIGN POLICY FORESHADOWED.

The Times correspondent at Shanghai wrote on Sept. 5:—

The appointment of Yuan Shih-kai as President of the Foreign Office in succession to Lu Hai-huan, who has been made Associate Comptroller of Customs, will probably inaugurate a firm policy in the handling of questions between China and foreign Powers.

In view of Sir Robert Hart's intended departure for home Lu Hai-huan is favourable to the appointment of Sir Robert Bredon, the Deputy Inspector General of Customs, to succeed him.

On October 3rd Mr. Lau Chin-ting was found dead hanging from the staircase in his house in Caine Road. The previous day he had sent for a lawyer to draw up his will and apparently having put his affairs in order he decided to commit suicide. Certainly he had been dead for some hours when his body was discovered. It was known that deceased was greatly worried ever since he took over the construction of the big river bridge at Canton. He bequeathed thousands of dollars to the members of his family; \$1,040,000 to be divided into 27 shares. Two days previously he sent to Canton for his coffin.

COMMERCIAL.

The Yokohama Prices Current and Market Report, published by the Yokohama Foreign Board of Trade, and dated Yokohama, September 16th, 1907, states:—

IMPORTS.

Yarns.—The market is dull, and values have slightly declined. Shirtings.—A fair "spot" business is passing, but no contracts for forward delivery are reported yet. Fancy Cottons and Woollens.—Though the rush for some Fancy Cottons has subsided, good Velvets for forward delivery are being enquired for. Metals.—Considerable interest has been evinced during the last month owing to material reductions in European and American quotations. To discover the extent of this decline very guarded enquiries have been on the wires, resulting in a small tonnage of business, especially in Bars, Galvanized Sheets, and Nails. Kerosene.—The market is firm. Sugar.—Nothing to report. Indigo (Natural).—No fresh business. Window Glass.—A noteworthy feature in the local market has been a sharp recovery in the value of Window Glass, which has been very weak for some time past. Holders are adopting a much firmer attitude, and further improvement seems not unlikely.

EXPORTS.

Tea.—Market unchanged. Total settlements from May 1st to September 16th amount to 97,287 piculs, against 98,538 piculs at the corresponding date last year.

GENERAL EXPORTS.

Fish Oil.—About 30,000 cases have changed hands at Yen 7.35 to 7.60 per 100 kin, and the market closes firm. Copper.—Nothing doing. London quotations are at about £65, which corresponds with about Yen 36 per 100 kin.

SILK REPORT.

During the last fortnight our market has been very quiet and prices for medium and lower grades of full-sized Silks have declined considerably, whilst Extras and fine sizes have remained fairly steady owing to smallness of receipts. A slight improvement was experienced on the 17th instant, when Europe showed signs of renewed activity, but since then our market has again become flat and is closing weak at quotations as given below.

WASTE SILK.

No business doing.—Markets in the interior quieting down. Settlements from September 4th to September 15th—piculs, Total Settlements from July 1st to September 18th—piculs, Stock on September 19th is estimated at 17,100 piculs, viz.:—Noahi, 7,500 piculs; Kibizzo, 8,700 piculs; Pierced Cocoons and Sundries, 900 piculs.

The Kobe Market Report, published under the direction of the Kobe Foreign Board of Trade, and dated Kobe, Hiogo, September 18th, 1907, states:—

IMPORTS.

Cotton.—American.—The early part of the last fortnight opened with prices comparatively high, but subsequently the official crop condition reported at 72.7 on the 9th instant caused a heavy decline. Latest quotation for Good Middling, September shipment, is given at Yen 41. No business, however, is practicable even at this rate, prices being still above ideas of buyers. "Spot" Middling is quoted at Yen 38, but there are practically no stocks available. Indian.—Forward prices are governed by the condition of the American market. Some business was put through during the first part of the month, but there has been a lull latterly in legitimate transactions in consequence of the fall in price of American Cotton. The tendency of the market closes weak. Recent business is reported at speculative rates. "Spot" is nominal. Quotations are Broach Yen 31; Akola Yen 23; Bengal Yen 23. Chinese.—Some "forward" business is reported at Yen 29.50 for "best" and Yen 28.50 for medium. These transactions are probably attributed to favourable crop reports and low quotations. "Spot" is nominal. Shirting. Clearances are fair and the spot market remains steady. There have been enquiries for forward shipment but there is a great difference between buyer's ideas of price and home quotations with the result that only a very small business has been concluded. Cotton Goods and Fabrics.—Market continues quiet, clearances are moderate, "forward" business absent. Worsteds and Woollens.—Practically nothing has been done for the past fortnight. Under normal conditions bookings should be brisk about this time

for heavy goods, Army Cloths, &c., but owing to the large stocks on hand and the rather uncertain outlook, buyers are holding off. Metals.—There has been a little enquiry for Galvanized Sheets and Tin-plates, but the spot market for other articles shows no improvement. Sugar.—Best.—The local market remains very quiet and has not followed the advance reported from Europe. Cane.—Raw.—The market is dull with little demand. Muscovados Basis Polarisation 96% Colour average 12½ is quoted at Yen 6.20 to Yen 6.25 per picul c. f. i. Kobe. Osaka Refined.—At the auction of the Refinery Sugars which took place on the 6th instant, 10,600 bags were offered and withdrawn, the bids received being below sellers' ideas. Rice.—Market very firm.

EXPORTS.

Tea.—Settlements to date piculs 64,200, against piculs 57,000 to the same date last year. Copper.—On account of the wild fluctuations in the London market no business possible, even China has ceased buying. Fish Oil.—(Inactive, no transactions reported, quotations nominal: Sardine Yen 7.50; Shark Yen 9; Cod 9.25; Whale Yen 9.50. Rice.—Market firm. Cotton Yarn.—Market very quiet. Vegetable Wax.—Slightly steadier, some business is reported at between Yen 26.25 and Yen 26.50. Matting.—During the fortnight under review fair parcels of stock goods changed hands at full prices. Manufacturers are unwilling to start on contract grades while the present demand for stocks continues. Straw Braid.—Practically no change to report. Supplies have been coming in more plentifully however, but prices have been well maintained. Chip Braid.—Business has been greatly restricted owing to the disinclination on the part of dealers to accept orders; quotations are quite unreasonable, and the trade has been going to the Northern port in consequence.

TEA.

HANKOW, 26th Sept., 1907.—Business reported since the 19th inst., is as under:—

	1907.	1906.
Settlements ...	1,813	3,169
Shipments to Shanghai on Native account ...	nil	11,614

The following are Statistics at date compared with the corresponding circular of last season, viz., 26th September, 1906.

	1907.	1906.
HANKOW TEA.	1-Chests.	1-Chests.
Settlements ...	489,862	381,571
Shipments to Shanghai on Native account	18,326	68,700
Stock ...	15,035	20,796

Arrivals ...	523,253	471,067
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	1907.	1906.
KIUKIANG TEA.	1-Chests.	1-Chests.
Settlements ...	181,558	158,018
Shipments to Shanghai on Native account	11,471	10,652
Stock ...	4,356	2,527
Arrivals ...	197,385	171,197

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, October 3rd.

Quotations are:—Allowance net to 1 catty.	
Malwa New	\$770 to — per picul.
Malwa Old	\$840 to — do.
Malwa Older	\$880 to — do.
Malwa Very Old	\$900 to — do.
Persian Fine Quality	\$700 to — do.
Persian Extra Fine	\$750 to — do.
Patna New	to — per chest.
Patna Old	\$855 to — do.
Benares New	\$830 to — do.
Benares Old	\$— to — do.

COAL.

From Messrs. Wheelock & Co.'s Report, dated 26th September, 1907. Japan.—A slight business has been done during the past fortnight at good prices and the demand still far exceeds the supply.—Stocks are still very short in Japan and prices firm, whilst coal freights rule slightly weaker. Cardiff.—No news to report beyond the arrival of the str. Ratho on the 14th instant, and the str. St. Bede on the 20th with 4,500 and 5,077 tons respectively, both cargoes "sold to arrive."

Messrs. Hughes and Hough, in their Coal Report of 3rd October, state that 19 steamers are expected at Hongkong with a total of 68,900 tons of coal. Since September 21st, 12 steamers have arrived with a total of 44,188 tons of coal. There has been no enquiries for Welsh and Australian. Japanese best kinds are held for advanced prices, low grades are unchanged, but very little business is reported during the fortnight. Quotations:—

Cardiff	\$14.00 to 15.00 ex-ship, nominal.
Australian	\$11.50 to \$12.00 ex-ship, nominal.
Yubari Lump	\$12.00 nominal.
Miki Lump	\$10.00 nominal.
Moji Lump	\$6.50 to \$8.50 ex-ship, steady.
Moji Unscreamed	\$6.00 to \$7.50 ex-ship, steady.
Akaike Lump	\$8.00 to \$8.25 steady.
Labuan Lump	\$8.25 nominal.

RAW COTTON.

HONGKONG, 5th October. — Smallbusiness. Stock about 1,400 bales. Bombay \$17.00 to \$20.00 per pel. || Bengal (New), Rangoon and Dacca | 18.00 to 22.50 " |
Shanghai and Japanese	25.00 to 26.00 "
Tungchow and Ningpo ...	25.00 to 26.00 "
Reported sales, 400 bales.	

YARN.

Mr. P. Eduljee, in his Report dated Hongkong, 25th October, 1907, states:—We have had a dull fortnight in our yarn market, and a small business only is reported on the basis of late sales. Demand from the country shows no improvement, and extreme caution is still observable in the dealings of native dealers, who are buying only for immediate wants, and being fairly well supplied with all grades of twist from their late heavy purchases can afford to wait further developments. Holders, on the other hand, although anxious to push business to a reasonable extent to make room for fresh receipts, are disinclined to meet any further demand for lower prices, and if this is adhered to during the coming fortnight we expect to see dealer's offers improve and a brisk business follow. Meanwhile the market remains quiet, but at the close an undercurrent of strength is showing itself which should further encourage holders. There is no change in our estimate of stocks, the recent arrivals being about the same as the off-takes. Sales of the fortnight aggregate 3,710 bales, arrivals amount to 4,030, stock estimated at 39,000, and sold but uncleared goods in second hands 22,000 bales. Local Manufacture:—There is no change in the continued quietness of this thread. Japanese Yarn:—Sales of about 250 bales No. 2's at \$12½ are reported. Raw Cotton:—Indian descriptions continue to move very slowly in sympathy with the market for twist, and recent arrivals are going into godowns. The present stock is made up mostly of medium and inferior grades for which there is no demand. The only business of the fortnight is the sale of a parcel of 70 bales superfine Bengals at \$21. Nothing doing in old China kinds. The first shipment of new crop China cotton has arrived and about 500 bales have been taken up at \$26 to \$26½. The cotton is cleaner and of much better quality than last year's and the yield is reported abnormally large. Estimated stock about 1,100 bales Indian and 350 bales China. Quotations are Indian \$17 to 21 and China \$20 to 24½. Exchange on India, after slight fluctuations, closes to-day at Rs. 164½ for T/T and Rs. 165 for Post. On Shanghai 72 and on Japan 107½. The undernoted business is imported and local spinnings is reported from Shanghai during the fortnight ended the 26th ultimo, viz.:—Indian:—Market active with an appreciation of half to one Trel in No. 10s. Total sales about 8500, with an estimated stock of 110,000 bales both in first and second hands. Japanese:—Rather quiet. Sales about 1,300 bales on the basis of Tls. 83 to 88½ for No. 16s and Tls. 89 to 94½ for No. 20s, closing weak. Local:—Nothing doing from first hands.

PIECE GOODS.

Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co.'s Report on the Shanghai Piece Goods Trade, dated Shanghai, 26th September, 1907, states:—The passing of the settling day has had very little effect on our markets so far, beyond perhaps a slight improvement in deliveries. Of course the dealers make the excuse that it is too early yet for orders to reach here from the country, and they are not buying in anticipation of any such. The continued decline in American Coo-

ton is quite enough to cause some hesitancy on the part of operators, and no doubt contributes to the general quietness of the market, which is a great disappointment to holders. Supplies are decreasing very slowly, and it is reported native holders are already endeavouring to arrange with importers to carry their stocks for a further period. We understand a meeting has been held for that purpose within the last day or two, but no particular news of what took place has, as yet, transpired. The native money market became rather more stringent just prior to the settling day, but has since relaxed somewhat and enabled importers to call in some funds to meet overdue contracts, and so trade drags along, a constant worry to get old engagements fulfilled and no fresh business offering. Amongst second-hand holders there has been some enquiry for Newchwang for American goods, and it is said as much as 1,200 bales had been settled when orders to stop buying came to hand yesterday. The information was also received that prices for those goods had declined five candareens and Indian Yarn half a teal. Tientsin is very quiet, but is taking Indian Yarn rather more freely, and can also still afford to pay the high prices wanted in New York for direct shipments of Domestic. For the Yangtze Ports clearances are fair, but Ningpo is quiet. Kiaochow and Chefoo continue to take fair quantities. The Manchester market remains unaffected to any great extent by the fall in Cotton, as Manufacturers find good quality so scarce they have to pay considerably more than the usual points on to secure their requirements. However, we hear at the close that some buying for this market is going on in staple makes, though operators are very loath to talk about it. The better class of both Grey and Bleached Shirtings appear to be the most enquired for. The movements of Cotton are being keenly watched. The Liverpool quotations received yesterday for Mid-American were 6.68d. for "spot" and 6.24d. for "futures." This morning there was a slight recovery for the former to 6.74d. But it is said for March-April the quotation was down to 5.94d. The only advice we hear of from New York is the purchase by a Tientsin house of 800 bales Pepperell Drills at 13s. 4d. c.i.f. Cotton is quoted 10.98 cents for January and 11.08 cents for March option. The demand for Indian Yarns is quieter at the moment; it is anticipated, however, that so soon as these purchases have been shipped off the enquiry will set in again, the tone of the market being decidedly firm. Clearances of recent purchases have been particularly good, showing the buying was for immediate consumption. Japanese spinnings continue very quiet, but prices steady, considering the further decline on the Osaka Exchange. Local spinners are beginning to be a little more hopeful now Cotton is obtainable on more reasonable terms. Grey Shirtings.—From stock we hear of the sale of some Silver Syces 8.4 lbs. at Tls. 2.62½ and Woman and Frog 10 lbs. at Tls. 3.55, while for next season's arrival we understand 250 bales each of the above weights and 1,000 bales 12 lbs. 36-inch, all good qualities, have been booked by one of the leading import houses. At Auction last week's prices have not been fully maintained, the 12 lbs. 36-inch showing up best, but even in these there were weak spots. White Shirtings.—In makes costing over five taels we hear of two or three large lines being indented for, but no further particulars are given. From stock, however, there is little or nothing doing, though clearances of former purchases are fairly satisfactory. Prices for the ordinary reed goods at Auction were nearly steady, but the heavier makes were generally firmer, and white Irishes advanced a mace and a half. T-Cloths and Jeans.—We have not heard of any private movement of the e makes. At Auction the former realised slightly easier prices for 22-inch, but firmer for 26-inch make, but the latter were much firmer for the small quantities offered. Drills and Sheetings.—In spite of the report that some resales, as mentioned above, have been made to Newchwang we have quite failed to glean any particulars, though we understand some coarse count 3.50-yard Sheetings have received attention from that quarter, and also some Piedmont 3-yard Drills at Tls. 4.02½. Fancy Goods.—Some indents have been booked for Figured Cotton Italians for the Coan market in several quarters at fairly reasonable prices and for early shipment, the recent failures in Egypt causing a complete stoppage in the demand for that market. As a rule very late delivery is required, which does not suit books of buyers here. Turkey Reds were showing some firmness at the earlier Auctions but this morning there was a general decline. Fast Black Cotton Italians were also weaker on the average. Woollens.—Prices for Camlets have kept up fairly well at the Auctions, but long Ells were slightly weaker and Lastings and Spanish Stripes irregular. With the moderate stocks of these makes a general improvement might be expected. Cotton Yarn.—Indian.—The high pressure of demand at which our market stood when

we penned our last report has eased off considerably during the interval. What buying there has been was on the same lines as before, the chief attention being paid to No. 10s for the Northern markets and Szechuen, and the higher counts for the River Ports. Prices said show little or no change, the market closing quiet but steady.

From Messrs. Ilbert & Co.'s Report dated Shanghai, September 26th, 1907:—Quite a large inter-native business has been taking place since the Mid-Autumn festival, and prices throughout are firmer, while holders are endeavouring to establish higher prices, the market already beginning to feel that several important lines of staples are in none too plentiful supply. This has led to a considerable amount of inquiry for fresh supplies from Manchester, but more presumably in order to keep in close touch with manufacturers' prices than for the purpose of immediate business, as the level here is still, in nearly all instances, far too much below that of replacement for the gap to be bridged although business in a few favourite brands of 10 lb. Shirtings is stated to have been concluded. The principal outlets that are at present supporting the demand are Hankow and Newchwang, Szechuen buyers having so far confined their interest to the purchase of Bombay Yarn. For the two first-named outlets, there has been a fair amount of activity in clearances of purchases on hand of Fancy and Dyed Goods, and English grey and white goods, while in American goods Hankow has picked up a number of lines American Drills, and both Hankow and Newchwang have participated in purchases of American Sheetings, all from second hands, the prices paid showing as yet no advance upon previous rates. The nervous condition of the cotton market has further contributed to the withholding of indent offers, and although the financial equipment for the supplying of the world's requirements as it is needed rather than letting the usual overweight of crop come on to the market during the latter part of the year, may be complete, present conditions of the Lancashire portion of the whole cotton trade do not point to supporting a high level for the staple. Latest telegraphic advices from an important centre of the cotton belt gives the continuance of favourable news regarding the now maturing crop, and a likelihood of not less than a twelve and a half to a thirteen million bale total.

HONGKONG QUOTATIONS.

HONGKONG, 4th October, 1907.

Apricot	\$ 6 to 11
Borax	\$ 15 " 16½
Cassia	\$ 19 " 19½
Cloves	\$ 18 " 32
Camphor	\$110 " —
Cow Bezoar	\$120 " 130
Fennel Seed	\$ 7 " 8
Galangal	\$ 2 " 4
Grapes	\$ 4 " 7
Kismis	\$ 5 " 8
Glue	\$ 26 " —
Olibanum	\$ 2 " 13
Oil Sandalwood	\$245 " 350
" Rosa	\$ 50 " 150
" Cassia	\$242 " —
Raisins	\$ 5 " 6
Senna Leaves	\$ 6 " 8½
Sandalwood	\$ 28 " 29
Saltpetre	\$ 20 " —

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 4th Oct.

A small business has been done and prices are easier by about ½¢ to \$1 all round. Market closes quiet. Quotations are:—No. 10s. at \$69 to \$91; No. 16s. at \$91 to \$128; and No. 20s. at \$93 to \$135. Arrivals 5,000 bales; Sales 5,000 bales; Shipments 2,000 bales; Bargains 33,000 bales. Unsold stock 37,000 bales.

Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20s ..	—	to	—
English—Nos. 16 to 24, ..	—	to	—
" 22 to 24, ..	—	to	—
" 28 to 32, ..	—	to	—
" 38 to 42, ..	—	to	—

COTTON PIECE GOODS—No change; Market quiet.

Grey Shirtings—7 lbs.....	\$2.35	to	\$2.40
8.4 lbs.	3.00	to	3.90
9 to 10 lbs.	3.80	to	5.05
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.	2.70	to	3.25
58 to 60 ..	3.25	to	4.00
64 to 66 ..	4.00	to	5.50
Fine	4.50	to	9.00
Book-folds	3.20	to	5.70
Victoria Lawns—12 yards ..	0.60	to	1.80

T-Cloths—6 lbs. 32 in. (Ord'y)	1.80	to	2.00
7 lbs. 32 ..	1.90	to	3.15
6 lbs. 32., (Mexs)
7 lbs. 32 ..	2.40	to	3.15
8 to 8.4 oz., 36 in.	8.00	to	8.85
Drills, English—40 yds.,	4.25	to	4.00
13½ to 14 }			
FANCY COTTON—No change; Market quiet.			
Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to }	\$1.75	to	\$4.25
8 lbs. }			
Brocades—Dyed	\$0.10	to	\$0.18
Chintzes—Assorted	0.07	to	0.80
Velvets—Black, 22 in.,	0.23	to	0.48
Velveteens—18 in.,	0.22	to	0.25
Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk	\$0.50	to	\$1.10
WOOLLENS—No change; Market quiet.			
Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops	\$0.70	to	\$2.00
German,	0.55	to	0.75
Habit, Medium & Broad Cloths,	1.25	to	3.00
Long Ells—Scarlet, 7-10 lbs...	\$6.35	to	\$9.00
Assorted	6.50	to	9.15
Camlets—Assorted	9.00	to	30.00
Lastings—30 yds. 31 inches }	12.50	to	19.00
Assorted			
Orleans—Plain	11.00		
Blankets—8 to 12 lbs.	\$0.65	to	\$1.50
METALS—			
Iron—Nail Rod	\$3.80		
Square, Flat, Round Bar (Eng.)...	3.70		
Swedish Bar	3.80		
Small Round Rod	4.20		
Hoop ½ to 1½ in.	5.60		
Wire, 16/25 oz.	10.00		
Wire Rope, Old	3.00		
Lead, L.B. & Co. and Hole Chop	11.80		
Australian	11.80		
Yellow Metal—Muntz 14/28 oz.	38.50		
Vivian's, 16/32 oz.,	38.50		
Elliot's, 16/28 oz.	38.50		
Composition Nails,	90.00		
Tin,	per picul		
Tin-Plates,	per box		
Quicksilver,	per picul		
Window Glass,	per box,		
	4.00		

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

HANKOW, 26th September, 1907.—The prices quoted are for the net shipping weight excluding cost of packing for export:—

Cowhides, Best Selected	Tls. 34.50
Do. Seconds	" 31.00
Buffalo Hides, Best Selected	" 22.50
Goatskins, untanned, chiefly white	
colour	" 8.80
Buffalo Horns, average 3 lbs. each	" 10.50
White China Grass, Wuchang and/or	
Poochi	" 8.50
White China Grass, Sinshan and/or Chayu	" —
Green China Grass, Szechuen	" —
Jute	" 4.50
White Vegetable Tallow, Kinchow	" 11.00
White Vegetable Tallow, Pingchow	" —
and/or Macheng	" —
White Vegetable Tallow, Mongyu	" —
Green Vegetable Tallow, Kiyu	" 11.20
Animal Tallow	" 10.60
Gallnuts, usual shape	" 14.70
Gallnuts, plum do.	" 18.40
Tobacco, Tingchow	" —
Tobacco, Wongkong	" —
Turmeric	" —
Sesamum Seed	" 5.40
Sesamum Seed Oil	" —
Wood Oil	" 8.80
Tea Oil	" —

Per M. M. steamer *Australien*, sailed on 1st October, 1907. For Marseilles:—379 bales raw silk, 100 bales waste silk, 134 bales pierced cocoons, 2 cases silk piece goods, 149 packages human hair, 1 case feathers, 4 cases tea, 10 cases paper, 1 case watches, 3 cases ylang ylang oil, 1 package jewelry. For Lyons:—409 bales raw silk, 2 cases silk piece goods. For St. Chamond:—10 bales raw silk. For Milan:—50 bales raw silk. For London:—1 case hardware, 1 case woollens. For Constantinople:—27 cases tea.

Per steamer *Prins Heinrich*, sailed on 25th September, 1907. For Smyrna:—20 cases essential oil. For Genoa:—293 bales raw silk, 150 bales waste silk, 60 cases essential oil. For Barcelona:—64 bales canes. For Antwerp:—150 bales hemp, 40 bales leaf tobacco, 10 cases ginger, 9 cases blackwoodware, 3 cases cigars. For Amsterdam:—292 cases preserves, 40 packages tea, 6 rolls matting, 6 cases cigars. For Bremen:—371 bales feathers, 119 rolls matting, 92 cases preserves, 6 cases cigars. For Hamburg:—330 cases ginger, 39 bales feathers, 70 bales canes, 46 cases ginger, 20 rolls mats, 19 cases human hair, 10 cases vermilion, 3 cases cigars. For Hamburg or Antwerp:—130 cases bristles.

SHARE REPORTS.

HONGKONG, 4th October, 1907.—There has not been much business during the week, but rates have ruled fairly steady and many of the smaller stocks have been in fair demand and have changed hands. The enquiry, at time of closing, remains more or less unsatisfied. Exchange on London T.T. 2/2½, on Shanghai 73.

BANKS. Notwithstanding the second call of 215 on the new issue of Hongkong and Shanghai Banks being due on the 1st instant, the stock has ruled very steady, and it was with difficulty that a small demand at current rates was met, sellers appearing very reluctant to part. Sales have been effected at \$645 and \$647½ for the old issue, and at \$640 for new issue (£30 paid up). The difference between the two rates is to some extent accounted for by the next dividend, in which the new issue will only participate to the extent of 75 per cent. Nationals remain unchanged and without business.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Union continue steady at \$760, and could probably be placed at that rate. Cautions remain weak and neglected at \$270. In the Northern Insurance we have only to report a fall in Yangtszes to 170.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs have been placed at the reduced rate of \$300. China Fires continue out of favour with only a small business at \$86.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao remain neglected and the rate has declined to 27½ with sellers and no sales. Indo-Chinas have ruled weak, and sellers at \$70 for preferred and deferred combined have met with no response. China and Manila are still in demand at 15 without inducing holders to part. Douglaser, after small sales at 37½ ex div. paid on the 30th September, close quiet. Star Ferries (old) have improved to 21 with small sales, while the new issue is still in demand at 10½. Sellers have been quite neglected and rule weak at quotation.

REFINERIES.—We have no changes or business to report under this heading.

MINING.—Raubs have ruled firm during the week, and a demand at 8½ failing to meet with any response, the rate at time of closing has improved to \$9, with probable buyers. Charbonnages unchanged. Chinese Engineers were in some request in the early part of the week, but close quieter.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have changed hands at the reduced rate of \$100, closing with buyers at that rate. Kowloon Wharves remain unchanged and without business at 67½ sellers. Shanghai Docks continue weak at 77, and Shanghai and Hongkew Wharves have further declined to 216 with sellers.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have found buyers at 96, and Humphreys Estates at 11½. Hotels are still in demand at 100 without bringing any shares on the market. Kowloon Lands and West Points continue neglected.

COTTON MILLS.—Ewos have improved in Shanghai to 62, beyond this we have nothing to report under this heading.

MISCELLANEOUS.—China Borneos have been placed at 9½ to 9¼ closing quieter at the latter rate with probable sellers. Dairy Farms have found buyers at 18, closing steady at that rate. Cements have been in fair demand at 11, and at time of closing have been done at 11½. Electrics have improved to 14½ with buyers and New Peak Trams to 190. China Lights have found further buyers at 6, and more shares could be placed. Ropes and China Provs are in request at quotations, but none seem available. Watsons are on offer at 11, and Powells have declined to 7 with sellers.

Quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Alhambra	\$200	Nominal
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai...	{ \$125 \$125	{ \$647½ \$640, new i. Ln. 278 Ln. 276 new i.
National B. of China	26	\$51
Bell's Asbestos E. A...	12s. 6d.	\$6½
China-Borneo Co.	\$12	\$9.75, buyers
China Light & P. Co.	\$10	\$6, sales & buyers
China Provident	\$10	\$8.90, buyers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 50	Tls. 62
Hongkong	\$10	\$10½, sellers
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 53
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 90
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 287½
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$18
Docks & Wharves—		
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$67½, sellers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$100, sales & buy.
New Amoy Dock	\$6½	\$11, sellers
Shanghai Dock and Eng. Co., Ltd.	Tls. 100	Tls. 77, sellers
S'hai & H. Wharf	Tls. 100	Tls. 216
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$17, sellers
G. Island Cement	\$10	\$11½
Hongkong & C. Gas	\$10	\$175, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$14½, buyers
Hongkong Hotel Co.	\$50	\$100, buyers
Hongkong Ice Co.	\$25	\$240, sellers
Hongkong Rope Co.	\$10	\$25, buyers
Insurances—		
Canton	\$50	\$270, sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$8, sales & s-l.
China Traders	\$25	\$90, buyers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$300, sales
North China	\$25	Tls. 75
Union	\$100	\$780
Yangtsze	\$60	\$170, sellers
Land and Buildings—		
H'kong Land Invest.	\$100	\$96, sales
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$10½, sales
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$36, sellers
Shanghai Land	Tls. 50	Tls. 101
West Point Building	\$50	\$48
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fes. 250	\$470, buyers
Raubs	18/10	\$8½, buyers
Peak Tramways	\$10	\$12, buyers
Philippine Co.	\$10	\$1.90, (new) buy.
Refineries—		
China Sugar	\$100	\$98, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$21, sellers
Steamship Companies		
China and Manila	\$25	\$15, buyers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$37½, r.d.
H. Canton & M.	\$15	\$27½, sellers
Indo-China S. N. Co.	25	{ \$41, Prefd. sel. \$29, Defd., sellers
Shell Transport Co.	21	\$4½
Star Ferry	\$10	\$21, sales
Do. New	\$5	\$10, buyers
South China M. Post.	\$25	\$22, sellers
Steam Laundry Co.	\$5	\$6, sellers
Stores & Dispensaries.		
Campbell, M. & Co.	\$10	\$20, sellers
Powell & Co., Wm.	\$10	\$7, sellers
Watkins	\$10	\$2½
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$11, sales & sellers
United Asbestos	\$4	\$10
Do. Founders	\$10	\$150, buyers
Union Waterboat Co.	\$10	\$12, sellers

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Share Report for the week ending 26th September, 1907, states:—Since our last issue, there has been a fair business transacted, but mostly of an adjusting nature for the coming Settlement on the 27th instant. We append details without further comment. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banks.—A small lot of New Issue have changed hands at \$305, Ex 73. Rates from Hongkong arrive at \$647½ for the Old, and \$505 for the New, buyers. The T. T. rate on London to-day is 3/04. Insurance.—There has been no business reported.

Shipping.—Indo-China S. N. Co., Ltd. have changed hands at Tls. 32 for the Preference, and Tls. 21 for the Deferred shares. There are no forward transactions to report. Shanghai Tug and Lighter Co., Ltd. The Ordinary shares are on offer at Tls. 47. Docks and Wharves.—Shanghai Dock and Engineering Co., Ltd. Business in this once popular stock is gradually dwindling to nothing. Sales of small lots have been made at Tls. 77 and Tls. 76 for September. A transaction for December is reported at Tls. 79, with sellers at this figure. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Co., Ltd. A considerable business has been done at most irregular rates this week. The market opened with sales at Tls. 226½ for September, and on the 20th instant the price was rushed to Tls. 230 only to fall gradually back to Tls. 226. At the close Tls. 225 is the best price procurable. For December shares have changed hands at Tls. 231, with sellers at this price. Sugar.—Perak Sugars have been dealt in at Tls. 17½. Mining.—There is no business reported. Lands.—A single transaction is reported at Tls. 102. Industrial.—Ewo Cottons have been dealt in at Tls. 65 and 64½ for cash. Shanghai Gas Co. Some shares have been placed at Tls. 105. Shanghai Ice Co. Shares are wanted at Tls. 14. China Flours have sellers at Tls. 55. Maatschappij, etc. A decline has taken place this week and the market has weakened from Tls. 340 to Tls. 332½. Forward rates have declined in sympathy for December and March, there are sellers respectively at Tls. 340 and Tls. 350. Shanghai Sumatras. Sales have taken place at Tls. 116. Miscellaneous.—An exceedingly small business has been done during this week, and we refer readers to the market rates appended. Loans and Debentures.—Municipal 6 per cent. Debentures have been placed at 99, and in large quantities at 98½. There has been a demand for all kinds, but only a small business has actually been put through at current quotations.

EXCHANGE.

FRIDAY, October 4th.

ON LONDON.—

Telegraphic Transfer	2/2½
Bank Bills, on demand	2/2½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	2/2½
Bank Bills at 4 months' sight	2/2½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2/3½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	2/3½

ON PARIS.—

Bank Bills, on demand	277
Credits 4 months' sight	282½

ON GERMANY.—

On demand	226
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ON NEW YORK.—

Bank Bills, on demand	53½
Credits, 60 days' sight	54½

ON BOMBAY.—

Telegraphic Transfer	164½
Bank, on demand	165

ON CALCUTTA.—

Telegraphic Transfer	164½
Bank on demand	165

ON SHANGHAI.—Bank, at sight.

Private, 30 days' sight	73
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ON YOKOHAMA.—On demand

	107½
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ON MANILA.—On demand

	108½
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ON SINGAPORE.—On demand

	6 p.m.
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ON BATAVIA.—On demand

	132½
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ON HAIPHONG.—On demand

	3½ p.m.
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ON SAIGON.—On demand

	3½ p.m.
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ON BANGKOK.—On demand

	67
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SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate \$ 9.00

GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael \$17.50

BAR SILVER, per oz 30½

SUBSIDIARY COINS.

	per cent.
Chinese 20 cents pieces	\$4.45 discount.
" 10 " "	5.70 "
Hongkong 20 " "	4.75 "
" 10 " "	5.55 "

FREIGHT.

Messrs. Wheelock & Co.'s Report, dated Shanghai, 26th September, 1907, has the following:—There is no improvement to report in our Home-ward Freight Market since last writing, and the outlook is anything but cheerful especially as the tea season this year promises to close unusually early. Coastwise.—Things are no better on the coast than when last writing and there is very little demand in any direction.—Freights are equally bad in the South and prospects are not at all encouraging.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

September—ARRIVALS.

- 25, Hongmoh, British str., from Singapore.
 25, Indien, Danish str., from Port Said.
 26, Arratoon Apear, Brit. str., from Calcutta.
 26, Christian Nielsen, Nor. str., from Sydney.
 26, Dagny, Norwegian str., from Chefoo.
 26, Derwent, British str., from Saigon.
 26, Glaucus, British str., from Liverpool.
 26, Huichow, British str., from Tientsin.
 26, Nanchang, British str., from Wuhu.
 26, Singan, British str., from Hoihow.
 26, Telemacheus, British str., from Saigon.
 26, Tjilliwong, Dutch str., from Amoy.
 27, Amara, British str., from Moji.
 27, Empire, British str., from Melbourne.
 27, Fukura Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
 27, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
 27, Iyo Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
 27, Tean, British str., from Manila.
 28, Agamemnon, British str., from Shanghai.
 28, Anghin, German str., from Bangkok.
 28, Chiyun, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 28, Drufar, Norwegian str., from Swatow.
 28, Fakuha Maru, Jap. str., from Anping.
 28, Locksna, German str., from Bangkok.
 28, Macduff, British str., from Kuchinotsu.
 28, Solstad, Norwegian str., from Saigon.
 29, Triumph, German str., from Haiphong.
 29, Australien, French str., from Yokohama.
 29, Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.
 29, Hunan, British str., from Wuhu.
 29, Kiukiang, British str., from Shanghai.
 29, Knivesberg, German str., from Macao.
 29, Poona, British str., from London.
 30, Amigo, German str., from Haiphong.
 30, Anglo Australian, Br. str., from New York.
 30, Borneo, German str., from Sandakan.
 30, Chihli, British str., from Haiphong.
 30, Chunsang, British str., from Moji.
 30, Frithjof, Norwegian str., from Swatow.
 30, Kwangping, British str., from Haiphong.
 30, Nanshan, British str., from Saigon.
 30, Nikko Maru, Jap. str., from Melbourne.
 30, Sanuki Maru, Jap. str., from Shanghai.
 30, Yarra, French str., from Marseilles.

October—

- 1, Benalder, British str., from Singapore.
 1, Hohenstaufen, Ger. str., from Hamburg.
 1, J. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
 1, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 1, Rhenania, German str., from Shanghai.
 1, Yawata Maru, Japanese str., from Japan.
 1, Zafro, British str., from Manila.
 2, Glenfalloch, British str., from Shanghai.
 2, Gregory Apear, British str., from Moji.
 2, Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
 2, Kasato Maru, Jap. str., from Iquique.
 2, Kwongseang, British str., from Shanghai.
 2, Michael Jebson, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
 2, Takasaki Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
 2, Yikang, British str., from Wuhu.
 2, Yuensang, British str., from Manila.
 3, Cheongchow, British str., from Singapore.
 3, Delhi, British str., from Bombay.
 3, Deli, German str., from Bangkok.
 3, Delta, British str., from Shanghai.
 3, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
 3, Joslin Maru, Japanese str., from Tamai.
 3, Kamakura Maru, Jap. str., from London.
 3, Maehow, German str., from Bangkok.
 3, Progress, German str., from Cebu.
 3, Saint George, Brit. str., from New York.

September—DEPARTURES.

- 26, C. Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Haiphong.
 26, Daiya Maru, Japanese str., for Moji.
 26, E. of China, Br. str., for San Francisco.
 26, Hue, French str., for Kwangchowwan.
 26, Kansu, British str., for Shanghai.
 26, Koko Maru, Japanese str., for Moji.
 26, Slavonia, German str., for Singapore.
 26, Yotorofu Maru, Jap. str., for Shanghai.
 26, Yochow, British str., for Shanghai.
 27, Bourbon, French str., for Saigon.
 27, Hallan, French str., for Hoihow.
 27, Indien, Danish str., for Yokohama.
 27, Laertes, British str., for Saigon.
 27, Loongseang, British str., for Manila.
 27, Prometheus, Norwegian str., for Swatow.
 27, Shoshu Maru, Japanese str., for Shanghai.
 27, Snoria, German str., for Shanghai.
 27, Taiwan, British str., for Saigon.
 28, Aldenham, British str., for Manila.
 28, Bance, British str., for Sourabaya.
 28, Glaucus, British str., for Shanghai.
 28, Hongmoh, British str., for Amoy.

- 28, Karonga, British str., for Delat.
 28, Onsang, British str., for Moji.
 28, Rubi, British str., for Manila.
 28, Singan, British str., for Haiphong.
 28, Daijin Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
 29, Hanoi, French str., for Haiphong.
 29, Hopsang, British str., for Hongay.
 29, Huichow, British str., for Swatow.
 29, Marie, German str., for Kuchinotsu.
 29, Merapi, Dutch str., for Amoy.
 29, Shantung, British str., for Java.
 29, Wimbleton, British str., for Japan.
 29, Empire, British str., for Moji.
 30, Iyo Maru, Japanese str., for Shanghai.
 30, Waishing, British str., for Ningpo.
 30, Yarra, French str., for Shanghai.

October—

- 1, Agamemnon, British str., for Saigon.
 1, Arratoon Apear, Brit. str., for Shanghai.
 1, Asia, British str., for San Francisco.
 1, Australien, French str., for Europe, &c.
 1, Dagny, Norwegian str., for Chefoo.
 1, Haiching, British str., for Swatow.
 1, Knivesberg, German str., for K. C. Wan.
 1, Mathilde, German str., for Haiphong.
 1, Mansang, British str., for Sandakan.
 1, Neumuehlen, German str., for Kobe.
 1, Tean, British str., for Manila.
 1, Triumph, German str., for Hoihow.
 2, Benalder, British str., for Nagasaki.
 2, Fukura Maru, Japanese str., for Moji.
 2, Fukuha Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
 2, Hellas, German str., for Hongay.
 2, Hohenstaufen, Ger. str., for Shanghai.
 2, Kwangping, British str., for Tsingtau.
 2, Laisang, British str., for Singapore.
 2, Nanchang, British str., for Chefoo.
 2, Nikko Maru, Jap. str., for Yokohama.
 2, Poona, British str., for Shanghai.
 2, Rhenania, German str., for Singapore.
 2, Riversdale, British str., for New Castle.
 2, Sanuki Maru, Jap. str., for Singapore.
 3, Amigo, German str., for Hoihow.
 3, Chihli, British str., for Hoihow.
 3, Frithjof, Norwegian str., for Swatow.
 3, J. Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Pakboi.
 3, Michael Jebson, Ger. str., for Swatow.
 3, Rajah, German str., for Bangkok.
 3, Takasaki Maru, Jap. str., for Singapore.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

- Per Poona, from London, Sir William Dupree.
 Per Agamemnon, from Shanghai, Mr. J. W. Smallwood.
 Per Haiching, from Foochow &c., Messrs. Garrolls, Wandnes, and L. Holison.
 Per Kamakura Maru, from London, &c., for Hongkong, Messrs. Russell, F. D. Matt, J. R. Smith and P. J. Clark; for Kobe, Mrs. K. Teramaye, Dr. Kadowaki, and Mr. K. Nagano; for Yokohama, Professor J. Sakurai, Messrs. T. Okabe, J. Kerr and McCreath.
 Per Australien, from Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. V. Hensay, Capt. Fhanson, Messrs. E. Gratton, H. Loolittle, J. E. Bringham, H. E. Large, Lounges, Leloup, Bowine, Bratier de Chuy, Stamenson, Castle, Ghanas Raseor, Edward Pond, and Watanabe.
 Per Yarra for Hongkong, from Marseilles, Mr. Emilio Munos de Bastillo; from Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. Somerset Playne, & Mrs. Dowse; from Saigon, Messrs. Alfonso Pires, C. Dahne, Blois, Saulot, Cothonay and Monnier; for Shanghai, from Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Cuttler and infant, Messrs. Wakefield, Alverny, de Lasteyrie, Merrant and Bourdais; for Yokohama, from Marseilles, Mrs. V. Chevalet and child, Mrs. de Brylino, Mrs. Tiesan and 2 children, Mrs. Baring, Miss Wagata, Messrs. Caffarin, Panigeon, Duzeaux de Lavergne and J. Raymond; from Colombo, Messrs. Serret and Settina; from Singapore, Mr. R. Nakagawa.
 Per Hohenstaufen, from Hamburg, &c., for Hongkong, Mr. and Mrs. Stahl and child, Messrs. F. Eberius, Narciso Campos, Antonio Curoio, Roguero Leal, Julio Martino, Ant. Carvalho, Adriano Carvalho, Manuel Federico, and Ant. Teisera; for Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. H. Meunier, Mrs. M. Richstrat & 5 children, Mrs. E. Friedrichs and 2 children, Mrs. A. Roloffs, Misses P. Jacobson, K. Epping, L. Bruning, E. Bruning and E. Kenter. Mr. F. Richard; for Kobe, Mrs. T. Penfold and 2 children; for Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. Kreidner, Mrs. E. Raymond, Mrs. A. Petrement, Miss A. Ferguson, and Mr. A. Laefler.

Per Zafro, from Manila, Mrs. Edwards, Messrs. H. J. Kinnard, J. E. Norton, H. Petersen, Harry Alleyne and J. Wright.

Per Delta, from Shanghai, Mr. Mrs. and Miss W. A. Collins, Mr. and Mrs. T. M. Elliott, Mrs. E. L. Dunn, Mrs. Smith, Misses MacDonald, Johnson, Harris, Anderson, E. Ridgeway and E. W. Freeland, Major Moore, Messrs. W. E. Bryant, J. J. Webber, C. Forbes, H. M. Rochfort, T. W. Hunt, F. O. Leiser, C. E. Watkins, L. Weigand, H. E. White, E. Huber, H. Sleight, E. H. Synington, Gibbs Briscoe, E. V. S. Heberton, H. Matson, T. Thomas, J. J. Bucher, D. R. Davis and F. de Madraso.

Per Delhi, for Hongkong, from London, Mrs. Lammerts Ayahy, Miss Parker, Capt. R. Rolfe, Sub-Lieut. C. H. Harvey, and Lieut. A. A. Mellin; from Marseilles, Messrs. F. B. L. Bowley and C. B. Johnson; from Penang, Mrs. Faohanda; from Singapore, Capt. Struve, Messrs. F. Pollock, M. R. Schumacher, F. Jacob and A. R. Tuthy; for Shanghai, from London, Misses C. H. Ingram, A. Reid, Summerskell and F. Shaw, Dr. A. W. Hecker, Dr. D. Smith, Messrs. A. C. Reiconit, W. B. Woodford and J. S. Dickson; from Marseilles, Messrs. C. Baokham, P. Towler, T. Welster, E. R. Palmer & A. C. Smith; from Singapore, Mrs. Graham; for Yokohama, from Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Guthrie, Mr. and Mrs. B. Saoler, and Mr. C. King.

Per Nikko Maru, from Melbourne, &c., for Hongkong, Mr. Mrs. and 2 Misses W. Trotter, Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Hager, Mrs. Dogel, Messrs. P. O. Rathcock, Pingdengolas, J. Clavier and Tell; for Singapore, Mr. & 2 Misses H. Leitch; for Kobe, Messrs. J. B. Suttler and R. Suda; for Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Cohen, Mr. and Mrs. Davidson, Mr. and Mrs. Ito, Capt. and Mrs. Haycock, Dr. Mrs. and Master Albert, Misses Boyne and Manning, Rev. J. H. Lawrie, Messrs. G. Hobbs, Gardiner, Rathbone, (2) Tioungson, G. Wool and S. Watanabe; for London, Mrs. Eveleigh, and Mrs. Gregor.

Per Yawata Maru, from Japan, &c., for Hongkong, Capt. and Mrs. King and child, Mr. and Mrs. Marques, Mrs. Shortridge and 2 children, Mrs. Petrie, Mrs. Vernon, Misses H. S. Fletcher, Johnston, Eyre and C. Marques, Lt. F. V. Izard, Messrs. J. H. MacLaren, Calthrop, Shortridge, J. Elliot, F. S. Dixon, E. J. Lopez, M. Fletcher, T. C. Vernon, E. H. Neave and L. Marques; for Manila, Messrs. B. Hernandez, Delfino Lozada and H. R. Burke; for Melbourne, Mr. A. T. Hodgson, and Mrs. T. Hodgson; for Sydney, Messrs. J. F. Cherry and O. E. Anderson.

DEPARTED.

Per Asia, from Hongkong for San Francisco, &c., Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Sizer and infant, Mr. and Mrs. W. Trotter, Misses Trotter (2), Sir W. F. Dupree, Messrs. R. Abel, John Forsey, M. Peterson and J. E. Norton.

Per Rubi, from Hongkong, for Manila, Dr. & Mrs. G. Morris Phelps, Mrs. F. West, Sister Baptist, Sister Gonzaga, Bishop Pozzoni, Rev. Father de Maria, Messrs. R. T. Scholze, A. J. Harris, B. L. Burdette, and R. A. Macgrath.

Per Yarra, from Hongkong, for Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Jannis, Mr. and Mrs. Cox, Mr. and Mrs. B. Stapleton, Mrs. Greenwell, Messrs. Henri Hefti Riennau, J. Gardiner, A. Langhome, F. A. Williams & A. Schvarcenbry.

Per Australien, from Hongkong, for Saigon, Rev. P. P. Louison et Etoheberry, Messrs. T. Natso and Emile Leffler; for Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Philips and child, Mrs. S. Pilts, Mrs. Haruku and infant, Capt. MacDonnell, Messrs. J. H. Nellés, P. Parissia, L. Loulondis and L. Sarva; for Marseilles Mr. and Mrs. H. G. C. Bailly, and Rev. P. A. Bertrand.

Per Nikko Maru, from Hongkong, for Japan, Mr. and Mrs. M. Breunich and child, Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. Gohan, Mr. and Mrs. Davidson, Mr. and Mrs. Ito, Mr. and Mrs. Tioungson, Mr. and Mrs. Millear, Dr. Mrs. and Master Albert, Capt. and Mrs. Haycock, Mrs. Eveleigh, Mrs. Ginger, Misses Boyne, K. Higuchi, Manning and Leitch (2), Rev. J. H. Lawrie, Messrs. A. S. Mihara and servant, I. S. Perry, N. V. Henson, H. Leitch, G. Hobbs, Gardiner, Rathbone, J. B. Suttler, G. Wool, S. Watanabe and R. Suda.

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